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Kindness revolution sweeping through JJC

by Lorraine Guerrero

There is a revolution going on at JJC, a kindness revolution. The Multicultural Transfer Center and holistic Wellness are jointly sponsoring a "Positive mental Attitude" group of events of 26 days.

The purpose of the activities is to promote positive thinking of students and staff through volunteerism and to build a sense of pride within themselves, JJC and their community.

"I really want students to have an awareness of individual strength through positive thinking," said Angie Kayser, Multi-Cultural Transfer Center coordinator.

The activities slated include a kindness revolution, a "Make Me Laugh" contest, two nationally renowned speakers and kindness police. These unknown staff and students will be on the lookout for random acts of kindness, and upon seeing one, will issue a "citation," which the receiver fills out and returns to the student center for a chance to win prizes. The prizes available to be won during these events include T-shirts, C.D.s, food coupons, tanning packages, dinner theater tickets, hairstyling products, throws, manicures, books, afghans and much more.

The Kindness Revolution (which began Feb. 1) lasts throughout the



Nationally renowned speaker, Toby Causby, presenting at JJC last fall. Photo courtesy: Holistic Wellness Center

next 26 days of February. Teams, which can consist of five to eight students or staff, will compete for FREE pizza party and bonus prizes. Points will be earned for community service, attendance at positive mental attitude activities through the next few weeks, conducting fundraisers

or drives for charities and receiving kindness "citations."

"When you can get a handful of people feeling positive, it will develop into a snowball effect," said Pam Dilday, Holistic Wellness coordinator.

Nationally renowned speaker

Toby Causby will present "The Passion Factor" on Feb. 10 from 1-2 p.m. in D2001. Causby will talk to participants about identifying vision for the future, and will motivate people to use the drives within themselves to succeed. Toby Causby is president of the company Interconnections. Toby has workshops and conferences that include group development, cross-cultural and multicultural communication, prejudice reduction, and conflict resolution. The next speaker will be Barb Fox, who will present "Stop the Stinky Thinking" on the 16th from 11-12 in D2001. Barb will have participants to reap the rewards of positive thinking and wellness. She will identify how unpleasant thoughts and behavior limit personal growth.

On Feb. 22, there will be a "Make Me Laugh" contest on the center bridge from noon to one o'clock. Students and staff from the audience will try to contain their laughter while being entertained by JC Players. Those who withhold their laughter will win prizes.

All three campuses are involved in the Kindness Revolution and Kindness Clean-up activities.

For any further questions or information regarding the kindness revolution, contact Dilday or Kayser in the Student Service Center.

Board member decides not to seek re-election

by Becky Shinn

A long-time member of the Joliet Junior College Board of Trustees has decided not to seek re-election as a trustee in the upcoming election. The reason for her decision is that she placed on another board, and felt that it was too much of a time commitment among the two boards and her fulltime job.

"I don't like not being able to give my all to what I do," Heap said. Some major accomplishments that have been achieved while Heap was a member of the Board of Trustees are the hiring of presidents, continuous construction of the campus, expansion and updating programs, and representation of the district as a whole.

"I am proud to be a representative," Heap said. Heap added, "Reaching out to the students is what is really needed. As a college, we've done that."

As for plans to stay involved with the college in the future, Heap stated that "I would love to continue doing something for the college."

Heap is an alumna of the college and was a student representative to the board for two years prior to being a board member.

Heap said that the decision to be a student representative to the board was a teacher. Heap said that the teacher told her, "If you feel voices need to be heard, go out and do something."

During Heap's second year as a



Board Member Joyce Heap photo courtesy of Community Relations

student representative, she was an intern for the state senator, and continually mentioned to the senator what good community colleges are doing.

Heap said that she was then told, "If you care that much for the college, you should do something for the college, and run for a position on the board." Heap said, "People that knew me always challenged me and pushed me to do something."

Heap will be invited back to do things in the future. I will never forget the school, or being an alumna of the school," Heap said.

TRIO program honored

by Katherine Fitzgibbon

For 16 years JJC has benefited from TRIO programs, including the current program, Project Achieve. On Feb. 28, National TRIO Day will be celebrated for its support of disadvantaged youth.

TRIO programs have helped low income students achieve academic success through academic and financial support for 34 years.

"In many communities throughout America, the TRIO programs are the only programs that help low-income Americans to enter college, graduate and move on to participate more fully in America's economic and social life," said Dr. Arnold Mitchem, president of the Council for Equal Opportunity in Education.

Some TRIO programs include Talent Search, Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math/Science, Veterans Upward Bound, Student Support Service, The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Program and the Educational Opportunity Centers.

Currently, Project Achieve is allocated to support 200 JJC students academically, financially and in transferring to four-year institutions. Every year students are given the opportunity to visit four-year institutions and one out-of-state university.

Jewell Dennis, project director, stresses the importance of emotional support as well financial and

academic support. A former TRIO student herself, Dennis has had personal experience with the successes of TRIO programs.

"Everybody needs to know someone is there who cares. It has been proven people enrolled in support programs do better. I did better."
-Jewell Dennis

"Everybody needs to know someone is there who cares," said Dennis. "It has been proven people enrolled in support programs do better. I did better."

Feb. 26 will be the third Tribute to Men of Color. There will be 25 successful men from the community visiting JJC to show that hard work does bring success. They represent a variety of occupations and the goal is to show the satisfaction of self sufficiency.

TRIO programs strive to allow students of any race or economic situation the ability to gain through higher education, and they continue to help disadvantaged students achieve success.

News

Hunt for chief ends, search for president begins

by Mark Malone

After a unanimous vote by the JIC Board of Trustees, the long, strenuous search for a new police chief is now over. However, the college must now shift gears, as its journey drifts towards a pursuit for a new president.

Following a thorough interviewing, background and screening process, the board appointed Steven L. Bennett of Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, as Director of Campus Safety and Security and Chief of Campus Police on Jan. 20, ending a nearly one-year search.

Bennett enters JIC with a 35-year law enforcement background, which includes a 25-year stay with the Philadelphia Police Department where he earned the rank of sergeant. Also, he was captain for the Philadelphia Housing Authority Police Department for six years, campus police chief in 1995-97 at Lincoln University, and director of public safety and security for one

year at Montgomery Community College. Recently, Bennett has been president and CEO of his own security firm.

"He has an extensive background in college and university law enforcement," said Dr. Alan G. Hardersen, vice president of Student Services. "He comes to us with an extensive educational background as well."

His education credentials display a Bachelor's degree in Social Work Administration and Psychology at Cheyney State College, Pa., along with a Master's degree in Human Services at Lincoln University, Pa.

"His characteristics show he's a people person," said Hardersen. "He seems very oriented towards campus policing."

Bennett replaces former chief Gerald Zborowski, whose contract was not renewed last spring. Currently, Zborowski has a lawsuit pending against the JIC Board of Trustees that claims he was dismissed unfairly. According to the Herald

News, Zborowski is suing for \$10 million, claiming, "He was dismissed because he was the target of a personal vendetta."

"He has an extensive background in college and university law enforcement."

-Dr. Alan Hardersen

At one point in time, the position appeared to be filled by William Reed, a well-respected officer from out-of-state. However, he unexpectedly withdrew due to a desire to stay in the St. Louis area where he has lived.

"Reed is a long-standing professional with experience in a community college environment," Hardersen said at the time. "We were sorry to see him go."

With the appointment of Bennett, the quest for a police chief concludes after a 10-member search committee, led by Chairman Dennis Wright, scanned 32 letters, applications and resumes for the position.

Throughout the process advertisements were placed in the Joliet Herald, Morris Herald, Chronicle of Higher Education, Police Chief Magazine, and International Association of Chiefs of Police. Five candidates were chosen from the field, but two withdrew.

Then, two of the remaining three choices were brought for a tour of all three campuses and completed final interviews.

"It was a very involved search process," said Hardersen. "We've been without a chief since Feb. 10, 1998, and the process began, initially, last summer."

Bennett will start on Monday, March 1.

Meanwhile, as one challenge ends a new one begins, with the college now turning its focus toward the

hunt for a new president.

Accepting a job as president of Brevard Community College in Florida, former JIC President Thomas Gamble offered his resignation to the Board of Trustees on Dec. 1, 1998, which has led to the current vacancy.

The position has been filled by interim president J.D. Ross since Thomas' departure. Dennis Wright, Dean of Arts and Sciences, has just recently accepted the duties as interim vice president.

"There hasn't been a search committee announced," said Hardersen. "But the Board of Trustees will determine the search process for a president."

Ross appears to be the front-runner for the permanent position, but the board is planning a special meeting, which has not yet been scheduled, to discuss the issue. Ross has been with the college almost 25 years, and at a meeting on Jan. 20, the faculty and staff indicated their support for him.



Blizzard of '99 was the theme of this year's Mainstreet.

photo by Shane Lindsay

News Briefs

Technology workshop

The JIC Institute of Economic Technology is offering a two-day workshop on Training and Return on Investment issues on March 19 and 26.

The programs will identify business needs, conduct initial project meetings, conduct performance effectiveness assessments, tabulate and interpret data, design evaluation systems for learning, conduct training, design tracking systems for results, present final reports and follow up with return-on-investment results.

For more information or to enroll, call Bruce Kuzmanich at 280-1512 or Vera Mitovich at 280-1503.

Internet marketing

The JIC Institute of Economic Technology is hosting a "Marketing on the Internet" seminar.

Topics include establishing an Internet site, analyzing what works on the Internet, publicizing a website, promotional techniques and selecting search engines.

Classes meet from 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 17 and 24 at the Main Campus or 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, April 13, at the City Center. The fee is \$150.

For information call Kristin Reef at 280-1403 or visit the website at <http://iet.jic.cc.il.us/sales.htm>.

Free tutor training

JIC's Center for Adult Basic Education and Literacy is offering free training for adults willing to become certified reading tutors.

Those enrolling must have a high school diploma, complete a 15-hour training program and accept an assignment to tutor an adult for at least one year.

Workshops meet from 1-5 p.m. Feb. 8-10 and 1-4 p.m. Feb. 11 at the Main Campus, or 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 20 and 27 and 9 p.m. Feb. 24 at the Joliet Public Library.

Successful students are awarded certificates from JIC CABEL and Literary Volunteers of America.

For more information, call Karla Boyd at 280-1332.

Managing your business

JIC's Small Business Development Center will continue "Managing Your Business for Success" workshops this month.

The workshops are designed to provide the practical skills, techniques and attitude essential for running a successful business.

Professionals from the community show participants what does and does not work in areas of business management, marketing and finance.

Hiring and Terminating Employees meets on Feb. 3. Developing an Overall Marketing Strategy meets on Feb. 17 and Developing a Direct Mail Campaign meets on Feb. 25.

All classes are held from 6-9 p.m. in the Smith Business and Technology Building at the Main Campus.

The cost is \$40 per workshop. For information or mandatory pre-registration call 727-6544 Ext. 1400.

Gallery exhibit

The JIC Fine Arts Dept., along with the Mathematics and Natural Sciences/Physical Education Dept., is hosting "The Canvases Eye: An Interactive Look at Visual Perception," the latest gallery exhibit presented in the Laura A. Sprague Gallery on the second floor of J-building.

The exhibit only runs until Feb. 5, but there is still time to check out this exhibit of mind-boggling visual effects that play tricks on your eyes. As always, admission is free.

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The Blazer is a student-run publication. Opinions expressed in the Blazer do not necessarily reflect the views of the faculty or administration.

Messages Given

Messages will be available on Thursday, Feb. 25 in the Student Center, D1011, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Messages are one dollar per minute, and there is a minimum time limit of 10 minutes. You can make appointments by calling 727-9020 Ext. 2202. The event is sponsored by the Holistic Wellness Center.

Livestock judging team

The JIC livestock judging team recently competed in the Arizona National Livestock Exposition judging contest in Phoenix, Ariz., over Christmas break. It took top honors overall in the contest, beating 20 teams from across the nation. The team also received first place in swine, second place in sheep, third

place in beef and third place in oral reasons. Several individuals excelled as well. Christina Schürhoff-second place overall, first place sheep; Clayton Pruet-sixth overall; Jeff Taylor-ninth overall. Also participating were Chad Cooper, David Mullins, Jason Shepherd and Andy Wold. This contest, combined with winning the Grand National Cow Palace earlier this fall, gives the team two national titles for the '98-'99 livestock judging team.

Ass Wednesday

Ass Wednesday is Feb. 17. The Newman Club is having service from 9:50 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in Room 30014. Asshes will be given out both early and late, but people have to rush. There will be a short reading and a prayer as part of the service.

News release

Entertainment series

Live at the Wildflower Room in the Barber & Oberwornum Horticultural Center, it's the Deer Tracks Coffee House Entertainment Series at Pilcher Park.

Pilcher Park may be known for its acres of scenic grounds, but now the sounds of melodies will be drifting through its woodlands. A variety of entertainers will be featured every Friday until April 23, from 7-11 p.m.

There is a \$5 cover charge and a cash bar. Coffee, alcoholic beverages, tea and soda will be available.

On Jan. 22, the Wildflower Room welcomes the Pan Go Steel Band, featuring reggae and calypso music with a Caribbean flavor. Originals from the band's recently released CD, as well as old favorites, will be featured.

On Feb. 5 you'll be singing the blues with local favorites T-Bird Huck and the Blues Busters, "spanning four decades of blues with a feeling."

On Feb. 19 don a cowboy hat and hoos for Bert Catton and Band, and country night at the Wildflower Room. Catton's "I Still Want You" was nominated for Best Country CD of the Year at the Chicago Music

Awards. Line dancing lessons will be taught by the Coyote Moon Dancers, and a free nacho bar will be provided courtesy of L. A. Cafe in New Lenox.

March 5 brings the Celtic sounds of Diane Linn and John Hancock. The pair have toured Renaissance Fairs across the country.

March 19 introduces classic folk ensemble INNISFREE. INNISFREE is a Chicago-based group that has explored Celtic and Appalachian folk music for the past seven years. The group has won second place in ensemble arrangements at the Chicago All City Irish Competition for two years in a row.

On April 9 get ready for Lynne Jordan and The Shivers, straight from Chicago's House of Blues. A big hit on the festival circuit, The Shivers have entertained audiences at the Taste of Chicago and as far away as Edinburgh, Scotland.

Finally, Harley Night revs up the Wildflower Room on April 23, featuring entertainment by TAKABITE. The Wildflower Room in the Barber & Oberwornum Horticultural Center is located at 227 N. Gougar Road in Joliet. For more information call (815) 741-7278.



Students indulge their habits, although this area has been banned to smokers. photo by Shane Lindsay

Police Blotter

Traffic Accidents

• Jan. 12, traffic crash in lot 3 No injuries.

• Jan. 13, traffic crash in lot 3 No injuries.

• Jan. 13, traffic crash in the intersection of T lot and East road. Two persons injured. Transported to St. Joseph Medical Center. Both vehicles towed.

• Jan. 13, traffic crash in T lot No injuries.

• Jan. 14, traffic crash intersection of T lot and East road. No injuries.

• Jan. 19, traffic crash T student lot. No injuries.

• Jan. 21, traffic crash in T lot. No injuries.

Alarm Calls

• Jan. 5, late alarm T bldg. Sprinkler head froze and burst, setting off alarm.

Medical Assists

• Jan. 11, medical assist G bldg. Student fell in G bldg. hallway.

• Jan. 20, medical assist. Staff member slipped and fell in parking lot 4.

JJC Womens' College

Empowerment conference expanded in '99

by Claudia Hawrylewicz

The second annual Empowerment '99 Conference has been expanded to accommodate 500 people this year, according to Suzanne Pryga, co-director of Joliet Junior College's Women's College. "Last year's conference registration was cut off at 300 and people were turned away," said Pryga.

The sex, gender and power conference-Empowerment '99-is scheduled to run from 7:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 11, at the City Center Campus, 214 N. Ottawa St., Joliet. This year's conference will feature two keynote addresses and two "break-out" sessions and includes a continental breakfast and a buffet luncheon.

"I think the significance of the conference is that gives the college an opportunity to be supportive and informative on gender issues," said J.D. Ross, interim president of JJC. "It is a highly professional and significant conference. Last year the conference had an outstanding presenter and this year another group of outstanding presenters are planned."

According to Pryga, the two keynote speakers are Dr. Paula Wolff, president of Governor's State University, and Dr. Andrea Gombberg, juris doctor, city of Chicago sexual harassment officer. Wolff will address the conference on women and educational issues in the morning and Gombberg will speak on sexual harassment during the afternoon session.

"The purpose of the conference is to increase participants' awareness of gender equity issues and to inspire and empower them to create social change," Pryga said.

Pryga says there will be two breakout sessions offering the host of six different topics. The sessions

will be repeated and will run concurrently. "Due to popular demand, Speaker Series will also be this year to present her workshop on Media Images of Women," Pryga said. Garner teaches a class at College of Dupage called "Growing Up Female."

Other workshop topics and their presenters include: Women and Technology, Ruth Sweetser (Illinois Institute of Technology, Wheaton Campus); Men and Masculinity, Andy Neil (Biology Instructor, JJC); Sexual harassment, Andrea Gombberg; Divorce and Financial Planning (Leann Lantz, Attorney at Law in Joliet); and Gender and Health, Lora McGue (Nursing Instructor, JJC) and Mike Lee, Chairperson (Natural Science Department, JJC).

"As an interim president, I am supportive of the activities at the college that are inclusive regarding race, gender and national origin," Ross said.

"It was a good introduction into the awareness of the challenges women face," said JJC student, Patty Kenney remarking on last year's conference. Kenney plans to attend this year's conference and is going to invite her boss as well. Kenney said, "The Women and Media workshop was helpful and informative and the keynote speaker was inspirational."

Another student, Angie Lockwood, summed up her feelings on the conference. "Last year the conference was very, very empowering to me, to see so many women who started out in male dominated fields and didn't quit."

Empowerment '99 is sponsored by JJC's Women's College, JJC's Institute of Economic Technology and the Social and Behavioral Science Department at JJC. Members of the planning committee are Ann Adler, Sandy Cyriel and

Vera Mitroich of the I.E.T., Dr. Roya Falahi and Pryga, codirectors of the Women's College and Social Science Instructors. Lynn Owens, support staff for the Women's College, and Pam Condon, JJC student.

"The conference is not limited to women, men are also welcomed, because men also pay a price for sexism and the ways we define masculinity," Pryga said.

The conference is open to the public as well as JJC faculty and

students. Pre-registration is required. The conference is free to all students. The cost for all others is \$15. To register call (815) 744-2200. Current students should use course and section number JOBS 999.S1, all others use course and section number JOBS 999-01. The \$15 registration fee can be paid in person or charged to any major credit card over the phone.

The luncheon will be prepared by JJC Culinary Arts students. During lunch the JJC players, under

the direction of Dr. Zachary Bloomfield, will perform three vignettes depicting a sexual harassment, date rape and domestic violence situation. Community organizations and businesses will set up booths and displays to inform the participants of the resources and services available to them.

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Kindness revolution

Get with the program!

by Carole Sharwarko

Heads up! Here comes the polite police! That's right, you councildeals, slaps up now because the school is currently crawling with some courtesy cops, if you will, assigned by the Holistic Wellness Center and The Multicultural Transfer Center.

These offices have teamed up to create a "Kindness Revolution" month full with positive mental attitude activities, which I'm sure you already know since you read the article about it on the front page, right?

When I heard about this event, I was somewhat relieved. I had thought for a while that I was the only one who has noticed the rapid decline of general courtesy and a human hand's care for others beside himself.

I'm not about to say that I think you should be more courteous of me like Eddie Haskell/Brady Bunch, sniffling like an idiot, mindless doormat. It is natural for one to take care of oneself first. But it is also natural to feel a need to take care of one's own kind as well. There is a big difference between the afore-

mentioned schmuck and a simple Yes-I'm recognizing the fact-that-I live-in-a-greater-society, everyday person.

It's simple actions that can be taken to ensure that a person lives in a state of politeness. I wish the cashier at Amoco would tell me my total so I don't have to try to see around the glare on the already-annoying plastic partition in order to make out the barely-visible-in-the-first-place-computer green numbers. It's not like I can comment on their lack of regard, either. That, in itself is rude.

I just want people to say "good-bye" before they hang up the phone! What ever happened to that? Wherever it is, I miss it. I don't know why, but that's something that really bothers me.

Another thing that irks me is when I almost bump into someone and I say, "Excuse me," and they look at me with an annoyed stare like I did something wrong. I'm so sorry that neither of us were paying attention.

Speaking of computers (were we?), I blame them, in a way, for the problem. You don't have to look at

anyone anymore. A click is all the recognition you need given. Sure, people are the main factor in a kindness decline. I'm only saying the electronic world doesn't help a whole lot.

I want to commend all those involved, not just for the idea of the activities, but also in the planning of the "polite police" idea.

See, people receive citations, not by exhibiting rude behavior, but by helping others and are then eligible for prizes. Thus, it rewards good behavior instead of punishing bad behavior. Pam Dilday of Holistic Wellness and Angie Kayson of The Multicultural Transfer Center have obviously taken their psychology classes.

So, this month give someone a smile or hold the door for them. Not just because you might win a prize, but because it's just a good idea.

Do it outside of school, too. Give someone the right-of-way at a stop sign or let them go in front of you in line at the grocery store because they only have a Kit-Kat and you have a cartful of assorted baked goods and 50 packages of salami (hypothetical situation). It's as easy as that.

Editorial

Have a complaint? Get involved!

Nothing is perfect. There is room for improvement in everything. If any JJC student or staff member was asked what he or she would do to improve JJC, she would have something to say.

Whether she does anything about it is another issue. Students get frustrated when decisions that affect them directly are made without their input. Problems remain problems because students don't think they can make a difference, or they don't know what to do about them.

Someone who makes no effort to change things has no right to complain. One person can make all the difference in the world.

Being aware of what is going on at JJC is essential. Students can keep on top of things by reading newspapers, attending Board of Trustees meetings, or getting involved in the JJC Student Alliance, the student government.

Next, you need to know who to talk to. The Student Alliance exists to make students' voices heard. Student Alliance members respond to problems they see through observing, talking to students one-

on-one and conducting surveys.

As stated in its Constitution, the Alliance also "provides an opportunity for student leadership... and a vehicle through which students may maintain sound communication with faculty, staff, administration and the Board of Trustees."

The Student Alliance consulted for many important issues at JJC and it brings to light issues as students show concern for them. Alliance goals include a smaller deferred payment, teacher evaluations, a second college entrance and recycling.

There are currently five vacancies on the Alliance. Students who wish to run can obtain a constitution and applications in D1010.

The Student Trustee election is also coming quickly. The last day to file a petition is Feb. 26, and the election will be held March 24-25. Petitions are available now in D1010.

The next Alliance meeting dates are Feb. 11 and 25 in the Cyber Cafe. Everyone is welcome to observe or to put their two cents in.

The Student Alliance is your voice. Use it.

And the survey says... students speak up

by Carole Sharwarko

Just before the Christmas break, the JJC Student Alliance conducted a survey of students about a variety of issues in their November forum. They compiled the data and sent a copy to the Blazer. The staff thought it would be a good idea to let everyone know what people said about different subjects.

One question asked, "If there were recycling bins available for glass and plastic, would you use them?" There were 124 people who said yes and only 14 who said no.

Several interesting responses followed the question, "What types of activities would you like to see on campus?" Common answers were karate and social events more on the party side of things. It was suggested that bands and live music be more incorporated into JJC's college atmosphere.

Less used responses ranged from strip clubs to prayer groups to kippers to family activities.

When asked whether or not they had problems registering for classes, 39 students said yes, but 98 said no. Where do the students feel people should be allowed to smoke on campus?

- Outside entrances-56
- Outside staircases-52
- Away from entrances-50
- Outside behind student center 33
- Not at all-23
- Inside 8
- Not by the Childcare Center 5

Only a couple of people said they thought students should be allowed to smoke anywhere on campus.

How do you like the E-mail package provided to the students? Most people stated that they liked the service. They said it was updated and easy to use. Some also said that they couldn't complain since it was almost free.

Several people, however, said that they didn't use it because they didn't even know they had it. Patte Fine,



In the survey, students reported mixed feelings about the e-mail system. Those pictured here seem satisfied, though.

director of Student Services wanted to remind everyone that they pay for e-mail access in their student fees, so they should take advantage of it.

An account can be set up by bringing a recent JJC student ID to the Student Center service counter.

Many students commented that they thought teachers should be more involved in the system. Another suggestion was to make photography sites accessible, but that does not seem likely to happen.

What would you like to see improved with the E-mail service provided?

Students replied that they want shorter addresses and want to be able to choose their own addresses and screen names.

What kind of articles would you like to see in the Blazer?

This question caught our attention

for obvious reasons. Most people said that they want to see more about clubs. Also, they want more fun things like comics, horoscopes and reviews. Recommended was a column regarding fun web pages.

We would like someone to do something of that nature, but none of us have either the knowledge or the will, so anyone interested in writing something like that is more than welcome to come in and talk to the editor about it.

Students said they wanted to see teacher evaluations and theater reviews. One person donated the thought "hot chicks at JJC." Again, I don't think we'll be seeing that in the near future.

What's your opinion of the new purge dates?

Opinions were split mixed with this one. Mostly, however the

responses were ignorant (i.e. "What new purge dates?") or negative (i.e. "They suck"). But there were valid arguments on both sides.

One student states, "Good idea. I can finally get into the classes I want for a change."

While another argues, "I don't like it because my parents won't pay a penny for my schooling and I have to come up with a large sum of money for the deferred payment within one week. That is hard for me to do."

One student suggests giving everyone an extra week, and another brings up the fact that it is too much pressure because some money doesn't come as fast as it is expected.

Some had both the ignorant and apathetic view, as one person states, "Whenever they are, I don't like them."

What projects do you feel the Student Alliance should work on to better student life on campus?

Again the responses were quite varied. Two popular responses were another road entrance and a foodbridge to T-building.

Some wanted lower prices in the food trays. Parking problems were a concern. The zimmer responses were a swimming pool, outside heaters and clean the river.

If you could change one thing about any JJC campus, what would it be?

These were the most varied responses of all. A surprising number of students said they thought there should be dorms and campus living options. Another common response was a remedy to the parking problems, with regard for a need of a parking deck.

There was a comment that the City Center needs to be cleaner.

One student was concerned with the amount of noise, loud and rowdy behavior and offensive language that is heard on the bus.

Students wanted more of a variety of food in the cafeteria, including, as one student stated, more "black food." Also, they think that a mass market fast food restaurant located on campus would be a positive change.

Again, there were some zany responses, including a memorial and idiot-friendly Final Exam schedule.

The Student Alliance analyzed the survey and is truly taking into account all the answers provided in order to create a better learning and living environment for everyone who spends time and money at JJC Junior College.

Letter Policy

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, or drop them off at the Blazer office at G1009. The mailing address of the Blazer is:

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DiFranco goes all the way Up

by Carole Sharwarko

Possibly some of the most interesting music reviews are written by those who really weren't fans of the artist prior to the review. This is one such instance. After receiving a call from a representative of Riotous Babe Records asking our newspaper to record a CD for them, I accepted without delay.

As a lover of music, I'll take a free CD any day.

A friend of mine is a huge DiFranco fan so I've heard a lot of her music. I liked some, didn't dislike any, but wouldn't really go out and buy it.

Had I heard UP before I got it for free, I would've gone out and bought it.

Like any good, creative album, there is no category to put it in. If I had to, I'd say it was a mix of funk, country-western, jazz, blues and folk. Just imagine putting together Bonnie Raitt, Beck, Sade and Bob Dylan. Sounds scary, yet it works.

DiFranco's both throaty and high vocal stylings complement her guitar playing. The album flows like mud through deep songs, sweet songs, silly songs and the combinations of all three.

The album kicks off with "tis of thee," a slow, yet harsh tune concerning social problems, mainly police officers. DiFranco, on guitar, Jason Mercer on bass, Julie Wolf on Wurlitzer and organ and Andy Stochansky on drums make a melodic debut on this album's first song. It seems as though they're preparing you for the proverbial ride ahead.

All then jam into "virtue," starting with a toe-tapping, heavy bass line and progressing into a quiet, villainous break-a-lurking with the organ adding to the creepiness of the whole thing. Imagine walking through a cartoon and then knocking over a wall, breaking into reality.

"Come away from it" starts out with the simple title lyric and even more primitive guitar line—the perfect start. The prelude only adds to the emotional plea to a lover to quit the drug scene, set in a jazzy, fluid, but uncomfortable one, made echo-like by the background vocals of Wolf and Mercer.

Acoustic guitar starts "jukebox," and only that. They're not about to give you a glimpse of the body-shaking funk that will follow until they rock you with it. DiFranco's vocal distortion mirrors the closeness of the woman in the song. It is a tororous, pulling kind of a song. It's not happy, yet it makes you want to dance.

The feeling that you're in the

soundtrack of some crazy movie, all the time not knowing quite what's happening, only continues when the band leaps into "angel food." This is just sort of a goofy jam, with equally nonsensical lyrics to the naked eye. But to those with a deeper outlook, the song is both a praise and

changes and while you can't help but affect you, you can affect what will help you. "god's work isn't done by god's done by people," croons DiFranco at beginning and end, and in the middle she takes it along with the band, all the way up.

"Know now then" brings back that jazz feel along with its psychedelic sister. Full of off-beats and stop-time, it makes you feel as though you're headed one way and then another, fitting easily the love-lorn lyrics about being confused.

"Trickle down" plays its namesake purpose with an airy, vibrating music line coupled with DiFranco's vocal distortion, sounding like she's singing into a tin can. A hollow sound to fit a hollow song.

This band, obviously full of life and fun, couldn't end its record with a song like that! So they didn't. The last song, "that shaped hat," raises the album back to a silly, but ever-contemplative level. Seemingly more a funk blues, jazz and folksy song—that was slathered around on the album like uneven marmalade, this last hoorah (at least for now) gets really wacky, especially at the end.

Speaking again about perception, probably, some of DiFranco's last words contain, "in walked a man/ shaped like a man/ holding a hat/ shaped hat/ he held up two fingers and said how many fingers?" and I said, peace man, that's where it's at." Full of silly lines and antics, it's a great way to end a great album.

UPUpUpUpUpUp seems like a very appropriate title for this album. Though sad and very realistic—nitty-gritty, it is, for the most part, quite uplifting. Uplifting it is, "it can't be that bad," kind of way.

All the band members prove themselves to be educated, feeling musical artists in the technical aspect of things, but are not to be reckoned with in life's emotional spin either.

The poetry of DiFranco's soul, both in the metaphorical and literal sense, is for above question.

This is a woman who isn't quite sure how to say what she wants to say, but is compelled to do so by her band that her words become concise, yet complex strings of thought.

The album hence spawned is a well-thought-out and worthwhile endeavor to say the least. Some may find it depressing while others would feel exhilarated; but two things remain certain this album is not for the weak-hearted and it's all about perception

Music Review

Niagara makes a splash

by Alyson Newquist

A drop of oil in the otherwise muddy puddle of modern music, Niagara

Niagara the soundtrack offers a distinguished selection of songs centered around coping with everything from alcoholism to depression to leaving home.

The Shooting Gallery motion picture Niagara Niagara deals with the escapism of two teenagers: Marcy (Robin Tunney), attempting to find solace from Tourette's syndrome; and Seth (Henry Thomas), trying to overcome social rejection.

At first the selection of songs seems as random as Marcy's ticks, but slowly it becomes one long serenade to inescapable sorrow.

In a world filled with pop beats and empty lyrics directed at no one in particular, it is refreshing to find an album with so much raw feeling.

From the musical-lyrical

correspondence of the Cowboy Junkies to the throaty howls of Kate Belle and the Belle Rangers, the album stirs up emotions

music attempts to numb.

With lyrics like, "your words are a through me like the blood in my veins," Lucinda Williams creates a Dylanesque

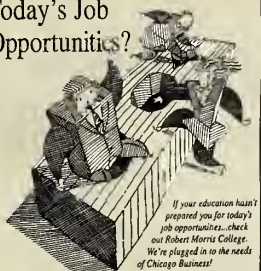
guitar strumming echo within the album, leaving the listener with a feeling of haunted pleasure.

The soundtrack also features an atmospheric song by the lead male, Thomas, along with two selections of instrumentals by Michael Timmons of the Cowboy Junkies.

The album is available at most Blockbuster Music and Best Buy locations. The film is available for home rental. For more information on both the album and the movie The Shooting Gallery is located on the world wide web at www.shootinggallery.com



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Workers replaced the worn carpet on the bridge in the past two weeks. At the left, a before/ during picture and at the right, the end result of the efforts. Good job, guys!



Presentation of the 'Big Bang' theory a big hit

by Crystal Duran

Those students who missed the visiting lecturer, Dr. Michael S. Turner, on Jan. 14, in the fine arts theater missed an exciting presentation.

Turner is the Bruce V. and Diana M. Rauner Distinguished Service Professor and Chair of the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics at the University of Chicago, among many other distinguishable qualifications.

Turner came to Joliet Junior College through a visiting lectureship program named after the American Astronomer Harlow Shapley. His visit to the college was funded by the American Astronomical Society. Turner has also been involved with

NRC, DoE, NSF and NASA.

He received his B.S. in Physics from Stanford University in 1978. He began working for the University of Chicago as an Enrico Fermi Fellow and he joined their faculty in 1980.

Turner gave a presentation entitled "Big Bang Cosmology: From Quark Soup to the Expanding Universe." Turner unfolded the hot "big bang" theory through an entertaining series of hand-drawn transparencies.

The presentation discussed the universe from the earliest moments of its existence through the events leading to its present. Turner spoke of the series of events that followed the explosion of space, also known as "The Big Bang."

In Turner's opinion, the universe was once a sea of quarks and leptons that created neutrons and protons.

Turner's hand-drawn transparencies that contained drawings that illustrated the beginnings of the universe provided a backdrop to his presentation.

As he shifted from colorful drawing, he explained that as the universe expanded and cooled, layers began to form complex clusters of galaxies, superclusters and voids made by atoms formed from the neutrons and protons. The matter was clustered close together some 15 billion years ago. As time elapsed, the density of this matter began pushing farther and farther apart from

each other, thus expanding to the present universe.

Turner believes the universe is still expanding right now. Although some 90 percent of the galaxy has not yet been discovered, there is evidence of some form of "dark matter" that some astronomers believe lies beyond the sun's orbit. It's called dark matter because it's contents are unknown and won't photograph.

He also explained that microwave radiation in space was evidence of The Big Bang.

Among other topics, Turner gave definitions of what stars, galaxies and constellations were. He also defined quarks and known types of quarks.

After the presentation, members of the audience joined Turner for a question and answer session while refreshments were served in D2002.

Dinner-time, New York style

by Stephanie Busbey

The musical "Company" will be presented at 8 p.m., Thursday-Saturday, March 4-6, and on Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theater. In conjunction with the college's musical, there will be a New York style buffet Friday, March 5, 1999.

Nick Blowers, Theater Manager, recommends early reservations to ensure seats for buffet patrons as well as for all other theatergoers because the seating capacity of the theater is only 370.

The musical is said to be a wry, witty and sometimes harsh look at modern life.

The dinner-theater will start Friday, March 5, in the Formal Dining Room in J. Building at 6:30 p.m., and the performance will begin promptly at 8 p.m. in the theater in K. Building.

Buffet price is \$20 per person or \$35 per couple. Theater tickets are sold separately. The prices are \$5 for the general public, \$3 for non-JJC students, seniors, faculty and staff. Tickets for JJC students and children

are \$1. Season subscribers to the JJC theater only need to pay for the buffet.

"Company," written by famed composer Stephen Sondheim and librettist George Furth, tells the story of carefree bachelor, Robert, who has a lot of married friends but is afraid to make a commitment to marriage. He's looking for the perfect woman who combines the qualities of his friends' wives.

As he observes the marriages, he doesn't find the perfection he craves. The musical is said to be a wry, witty and often acerbic look at modern marriage. Robert learns a person has to be open to find love. As he says in his final song, he wants someone to "make me alive."

Since the locale of "Company" is New York, Professor Frederick Ferrara has chosen the menu to reflect the city's varied cuisine. Long Island Clam Chowder, ribeye roast, broiled scrod, blue cheese potato salad and New York cheese cake will be some of the dishes on the menu.

Plantation corn pudding, sweet potatoes au gratin, fresh apple and pear sauce, Manhattan tossed salad with assorted dressings, and breads from around the U.S. will also be served.

The dinner-theater will be hosted by the American Culinary Federation, Louis-Joliet Chapter, and JJC's Fine Arts Department. Profits

from both the buffet and performances benefit various scholarship funds for Culinary Arts and JJC Players activities.

Several area cities are represented in the cast of "Company." Joliet is represented by Dawn Franke (Robert), Paul Kraus (David), Steve Peterson (Paul), David R. Choumard (Larry) and chorus singers Ellen McDonald, Carol Spolnik and Nicki Blowers.

Jennifer Bludgen (Marta), Kathryn Seum (Susan), Kristine Umlins (Sarah) and Tom Drugas (Peter) all live in Lockport.

Jennifer Weber (Kathy) and Don McKinney (Harry) live in Mokena. Eric Yonkee (Bartender) is from Broadwood.

Julianne Zetella (April) is from Coal City.

Jennifer Cleereaman (Amy) is from Romeoville.

Roxanne Munch (Joanne) is from Plainfield.

Jenny Trent (Jenny) is from New Lenox.

Please reserve theater tickets by calling 729-9020, ext. 2200. Make reservations for the buffet with Professor Frederick Ferrara at college extension 2529.

Please RSVP with a check made out to American Culinary Federation for the appropriate amount no later than Feb. 22.

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Men hoopsters seek return to national tourney

by Jason Henschen

As far as records go the JJC Men's basketball team doesn't appear to have the best (12-14). However, the 12 victories earned already are only four less than last year. Last year's team took third in the nation and finished with a 16-18 record. So don't count out these boys yet.

The season has been difficult so far with all the new players trying to gel together. Adding to the inexperience of the team, four players have since left the team. Among those players are Quincy Lewis, Edward Clay, Omar Williams and Pete Howard. The players left due to poor grades and personal reasons.

The loss of these players really doesn't mean a whole lot, statistically speaking. Lewis and Howard played the most games between the four, with 13. That's not even half of the games. Lewis, who also plays football here, averaged the most ppg. at 3.9.

What the loss of these four men creates is a depth problem. The Wolves now only have three players coming off the bench. This situation makes it very likely that one or two guys will have to play the entire game.

The team is used to this sort of thing though. In the magical season of 1991-1992 the team finished fifth in the nation, with only seven players. Those players are now referred to as the "magnificent seven." Last year's team went through the same thing. It only had eight players and finished third in the nation.

So far this season the team is being led by guard Mike Ellis and guard Jason Chandler. Ellis is leading the team in ppg (18.3), steals (1.7),



Ron Roemer puts up a jumper at a recent home game

photo courtesy of Athletics Department

three point field goals made (84), free throw percentage (77 percent) and he is tied on the team for steals, at 1.7. Ellis is also on pace to break the school record for most three pointers in a season.

Chandler, last month's Blazer Player of the Month, is averaging 16.1 ppg. and is second only to Ellis in three pointers (30).

A pleasant surprise for the Wolves, is freshmen center Jim Hilleck. Hilleck has a steady 10.7 ppg and leads the team in rebounding at 7.3. "Jim improves with every game," said JJC Head Men's Coach Joe Kuhns.

The team has three games left before the first round of the playoffs begins. The last home game is Saturday Feb. 6 at 7 p.m.

Upcoming

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Feb. 9-Harper College*

Feb. 13-College of Dupage*

Feb. 16-- 1st Round

Feb. 18-- 2nd Round

Feb. 28-- 3rd Round

Feb. 25-Kentucky Champ.

Mar. 4-6-- Nationals

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AP/599

Lady Wolves keeping pace in conference race

by Dan Gutierrez

The JIC women's basketball program has started off the conference schedule well with a 4-1 record. The only loss has come at the hands of College of DuPage.

The Lady Wolves registered victories over Rock Valley, Illinois Valley, Triton, and Harper before falling to DuPage. Since Christmas, the Lady Wolves have been playing very well.

Felicia Randle has been shooting excellently and is in the midst of a 21 of 31 streak from the field. Other key players of late for the Wolves have been Tracy Phillips and Lisa Cieply.

Randle, a freshman center out of Romeville, has been playing well so far this season. She has hit a team best 54 percent of her shots from the field. As of press time she led the team in scoring with a 15.6 points per game average.

Cieply, a sophomore guard out of Peotone, has been very consistent from the free throw line. She is currently shooting 75 percent from the line.

Another standout performer has been freshman guard Mary McNair. McNair, a Joliet Township graduate,



The Lady Wolves fine-tune their game plan during a recent practice.

photo by Mark Malone

has been averaging 13.3 points a game.

Coach Tim Johnson has been very pleased with the play of his team.

The effort his team has put forth may please the coach, but don't count on this team resting on its laurels. This team has been making great strides

to improve its game.

With a good outlook for the remainder of the season one can't help but ask the question, how far

can this team go? With a 4-1 record in the conference the Wolves stand a good shot at winning the conference.

A key game will be on Jan. 28 when the Wolves travel to Rockford to take on Rock Valley College. With a win over the Golden Eagles, the Wolves will guarantee finishing no lower than second in the conference.

If this does happen, there will be a good chance of hosting a tournament game in the conference tournament.

Of course, the ultimate goal of this team is to qualify for the nationals. To reach the national tournament the Wolves will have to continue improving. In the words of coach Johnson, the team will have to "shoot better and keep up the intensity" in order to have a chance at making the national tournament.

Does this team have what it takes to return to the national championship scene? We will just have to wait and see what happens in the next few weeks.

Hopefully, barring injuries and poor shooting we could see the JIC Women's basketball team bring home some hardware for the trophy case.

Player of the Month

Randle starts with a bang

by Mark Malone

It wasn't much of a secret that freshman Felicia Randle would eventually become an integral component to the Lady Wolves arsenal.

Previously, the 6-foot center out of Romeville High School had proven her abilities after being honored as the SICA All-Conference Player of the Year and a Herald News All-Area Player in the 1197-98 season. Still, Randle is opening the new year in the appropriate fashion for JIC, being crowned the Player of the Month.

Throughout the season, Randle has helped drive the Lady Wolves (12-9, 4-0 in the NHC as of 1/19) with unwavering dominance under the boards (13.1 rpg) matched by her commanding scoring capabilities (15.0 ppg). Currently, her statistics are convincing enough to place her second overall in rebounding and eighth in scoring within Region 4.

"Felicia is an awesome athlete, and even though she is still learning, she's going to be quite a player," said JIC Women's Basketball Coach Tim Johnson. "Her offensive and defensive rebounding skills are awesome... and her defensive play is outstanding considering the averages 2.7 steals per game for us."

Early in the season, Randle erupted with 20 points and 19 rebounds that propelled JIC to a 79-56 victory over Elgin. According to Johnson she was on pace to shatter the school record for rebounds, but he opted to take her out to rest.

"It was my fault, really. If I didn't take her out she probably would have broke it," said Johnson. "But, she's had about 14 or 15 big games for us so far this season."

Soon after, Randle kept a healthy pulse behind a second half explosion (15 points and 11 boards), which produced her game high totals of 21 points and 15 rebounds, despite a 94-75 defeat to Black Hawk.



Felicia Randle photo by Mark Malone

On two previous occasions during the year, Randle had represented JIC in excellent fashion, earning All-tournament team honors in the UPS/JIC Holiday Classic and the Kalamazoo Christmas Tournament. Obviously, the adjustment from the high school ranks to the college level hasn't slowed Randle's play. However, she has noticed a difference in the two.

"The girls are a little bit tougher in college," said Randle. "But it just makes me work harder."

Randle caught the eye of JIC coaches when she helped power the Romeville Spartans to a SICA North conference title and the Class AA Regional Championship. "I first saw her play as a freshman for Romeville at a tournament in Plainfield," said Johnson. "We've followed her ever since."

Academics also played a role in her decision.

"It sounded like a nice place to play," said Randle. "I first looked to get a good education, and once I heard how good the girls' basketball team was... that's when I made my decision."

Right now Randle and her teammates, guided by Johnson, are devising a scheme to capture the NAC crown. "As long as we keep practicing hard we plan to win the conference and go to Nationals."

Just Talkin' Sports

Good bye Michael!

Jordan's retirement a good thing

by Jason Henschen

In the world of sports only three things are constant. Someone always wins. Someone always loses. Everybody retires. Michael Jordan was and is no different. I believe Jordan's retirement is a good thing for the NBA.

Jordan, despite his many contributions to the game, has hurt it more than helped it. From the time Jordan started doing home videos and Gatorade commercials the game has suffered.

Not only that, but how can a person rationalize his one-year \$36 million contract? I know I can't. \$36 million is more money than most of us will make in our lifetimes. This man was paid \$36 million to play a game. That in itself speaks volumes about our "society."

Just when is there enough money? Rod Strickland of the Washington Wizards apparently is upset. "Rod Strickland, the NBA's assistant leader last season, is still upset about the three-year \$30 million offer (with two non-guaranteed option years) the Washington Wizards have made to re-sign him," cited the Chicago Sun-Times. Well Rod, if you respect with \$30 million talk to my cousin.

He makes \$5.25 an hour at McDonald's. Speaking from experience, I can tell you working there is a lot harder than going to practice every day and playing two to three games a week.

I'm not going to blame Rod for the increased salary demands in the NBA. I'm going to blame Jordan.

First, the salaries in the NBA were never really questioned or gripped about until Jordan signed a one-year, \$30 million contract for the '96-'97 season. Then the talk started. Shaquille O'Neal's contract with the Lakers was brought up, then Anfernee "Penny" Hardaway, then Patrick Ewing and so on. So when Kevin Garnett turned down a seven-year \$107 million dollar contract, we knew trouble was coming. Especially when Garnett did sign. He signed for seven years and \$129 million. Then he had the gall to say, "It wasn't about the money." I think Kevin was telling the truth. I think he wanted to say he made more than Albert Belle.

Just in case you're curious, if Jordan signed a seven-year deal for \$36 million a year, he would have made \$252 million. Jordan hasn't just hurt the game through his enormously huge contracts, but also through his commercial endorsements. Just to name a few: McDonald's, Gatorade, Hanes and Ballpark hotdogs.

How about his own line of products? From his shoes all the way to his recently released autobiography, which I'm sorry to say I own. (I'll admit Christmas present), his Arness believes we should pay \$120 to wear shoes with his name on them. How about paying \$60 dollars for his cologne? Come on, Michael, even Abercrombie only charges \$50 dollars for its cologne, and it smells better.

To top it all off, we have to watch Michael in the movies. I don't know

if you saw Space Jam, but I think the man should keep his day job. Wait, he already retired. Again.

Jordan says he is retiring because he feels the game presents no more challenges. Well, Michael, that's wonderful, but don't you think that you owe the game and the fans more than that? The transition back after the lockout will be difficult. Anyone remember the baseball strike? It took four years for the fans to come back. Losing Jordan will make things even tougher on the NBA. Losing the most recognizable athlete in the world is kind of rough for lovers of the game. The saddest part is that Jordan is leaving when he is needed the most.

I'm sure the NBA would have survived without Jordan. Larry Bird, Magic Johnson and Charles Barkley were there. Granted, none made the game as popular as Jordan, but I believe Bird and Johnson were equal if not better players than Jordan.

What I mean by this is they may not have had Jordan's skill level, but they played for the love of the game. Every time Magic stepped on the court he had a smile on his face. He never demanded \$36 million for one season. Magic won two MVP Awards without ever leading the league in any category those seasons. Michael can't claim that. The only reason he won the MVP is because he was a ball hog.

Three things are for sure now in the NBA. The Bulls won't win the championship this year. Charles will not get a ring. Rusty LaRue will lead the Bulls in scoring. Thanks Michael.

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J. D. Ross voted in as new JJC president

by Crystal Duran

J.D. Ross was officially voted in as the new president of Joliet Junior College at the Feb. 9 board meeting. Ross was congratulated by board members as they stood up, clapped and cheered for the new person in leadership. Ross had been the interim president since JJC's former president, Dr. Thomas Gamble, resigned in December.

Ross has been with JJC for 24 years.

But Ross' career before JJC is full of academia. He has taught geography, history, sociology. He was an assistant principal at a junior high school and director of the inmate training program, providing educational services for inmates.

When asked how he felt about his new position as JJC's president, Ross responded, "It's a real honor, I mean I've worked here for a long time. I really believe in Joliet Junior College and the work that we do."

He praised JJC by saying, "I think we have a very, very good institution with lots of quality faculty and staff members."

Of course, he couldn't resist complementing the students at JJC when he said, "I think we have an outstanding student body."

Ross also said that JJC has had many successful students, and all should be proud of that.

Despite some "negative press" that has accentuated differences on the board, Ross said he believed the college has a bright future.

"I still think it's a good college," he says. "I hope that I can be kind of a stabilizing influence and resolve some of the issues that lead to the board dissention, and have us moving forward in a real good fashion for the centennial celebration."

Regarding whether Ross is planning on picking up where former president Gamble left off, he said that since he was part of developing some of those plans for JJC, he plans on "taking out the list" and revising those ideas, in order to make sure they are still good ideas for JJC.

He hopes that he can continue operating in the same manner that Gamble did. Ross says that Gamble tried to be what he calls a "consensus voter."

"I believe in it myself," Ross states. Ross believes that it is important to get input from as many people as possible, "I think those usually lead to effective decisions."

He thinks Gamble kept the school moving forward, and wishes to continue that. Among the things that



Members of the board applaud after Ross is voted in.

photo by Crystal Duran

**"I really believe
in Joliet Junior
College and the
work that we do."**

**-JJC President
J.D. Ross**

Ross wants to minimize how Gamble met with JJC students on a regular basis.

"There were a lot of things he did that I really liked," Ross says. "I hope I can do them as effectively as he did."

Currently, Ross hopes some construction documents will be approved by the board in order to

begin building a veterinary medical technology building for its program next fall.

Recently, JJC has been working with the Will Grundy Emergency Medical Services Program here at the college in conjunction with emergency medical services.

Ross says JJC will be working very hard to move to more community policing after the new police chief arrives at the college on March 1.

"We are excited about the future," Ross says.

Ross experienced a few minor conflicts before becoming the president of JJC. Some trustees had expressed a concern about how the election wasn't an open selection process. But in the end everyone

who had been concerned supported J.D. Ross.

In response to their support, Ross says happily, "All's well that ends well."

Ross does confess that he can't do the job without the work from the board as well. Ross also says that he thinks JJC is an outstanding school with outstanding students.

"I believe we serve the community very very well," Ross states. He also believes in "I honestly believe that the students who come here and treat this as the real college experience have a good experience."

Ross says he is ready for his new challenge, "I'm going to give it my best. I've enjoyed it for 24 years now, no reason to think that's going to change."

Phi Theta Kappa adds a new chapter

by Becky Shinn

Due to the ever-growing concern about literacy in America, especially children's literacy, the Joliet Junior College chapter of Phi Theta Kappa is involved in the nationwide America Reads program.

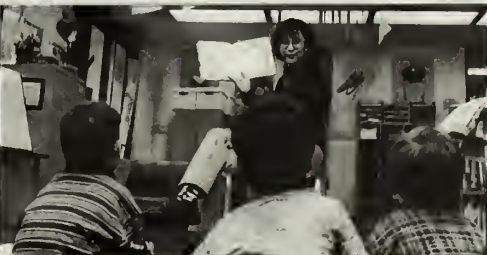
Sue Malmberg, advisor of JJC's chapter, said the main goal of the America Reads program is "to improve children's literacy."

"Some ways that JJC's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa has been involved in the program include reading in the day care, a fall book drive, and encouraging book donations to the day care," Malmberg said.

Because of this concentration on reading with children, Natalie Miller, instructor of Children's Literature at JJC, gave a presentation at the January meeting.

The America Reads program is the current nationwide chosen service project for Phi Theta Kappa. Service projects are chosen for two years, and this is the first year of the America Reads service project.

Each member of JJC's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa "is required to do six service hours per semester," said Malmberg.



Jeanette Kriger reads "Two Mice Monkeys" to the kids in the childcare center.

photo by Shante Lindley

"This is the first year that we have required this," she added. One way students can earn service hours is by reading to children in the childcare center.

The service project for the previous two years was on AIDS awareness. Some projects involved with this theme included "supporting a blood drive and participating in the

AIDS Walk in Chicago," stated Malmberg.

Also, the JJC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa started a food pantry for a family with young children where both parents suffered from AIDS.

"We donated what amounted to about two weeks worth of food for that family," Malmberg said.

Phi Theta Kappa works with

students to achieve their four hallmarks: service, scholarship, fellowship and leadership.

Malmberg said that due to more and more high schools requiring service hours for graduation, students have become aware of the need to volunteer their time to service projects. The Phi Theta Kappa website is www.ptk.org.

News

JJC to present third annual Woodland Reunion Pow Wow

News Release

JJC will be presenting its third annual Woodland Reunion Pow Wow on Saturday, March 13.

The event is sponsored by the JJC Office of Student Services and Activities and JJC Native American Club, in cooperation with the American Indian Center of Chicago.

Doors will open at noon, with grand entries slated for 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

The day-long activities will last until approximately 9 p.m. Some of these ongoing activities will include Native American dancing and music, Native American food as well as a regular menu in the cafeteria, a

variety of vendors exhibiting and selling their Indian crafts and much more.

Admission will be \$4 for adults and \$2 for elders, students and children.

For more information, contact Fred Harris, sponsor of the JJC Native American club, at ext. 2566.

News Briefs

Phi Theta Kappa

Oration for new Phi Theta Kappa members is on Tuesday, March 2, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 5 p.m.-7 p.m. in room K 2005.

Focus Group

Anyone interested in a career in technology may attend the Technology Careers Focus Group hosted by the JJC Dislocated Worker Assistance Center. Learn about hiring and employment trends within various technical fields and obtain valuable labor market information. Presentations will be given by JJC faculty and members of local businesses within the technology arena.

It will be held at the JJC City Center Campus Renaissance Center on March 25, 1999, from 1 p.m.-3 p.m. The focus group is open to JJC Dislocated Worker participants and JJC students. Please call 280-1300 as soon as possible to reserve a seat.

Talent Scholarships

The JJC Fine Arts Department is holding auditions for the 1999-2000 Music Talent Scholarships on Saturday, March 20. The scholarships are \$400 per semester for a maximum of four semesters. High school seniors who will be JJC music majors are eligible.

Applications and more information can be obtained from high school counselors, music directors or at the Fine Arts Department at ext. 2223. Application deadline is Monday, March 15.

Math Contest

JJC is hosting the Illinois Council for Teachers of Mathematics regional math contest from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 27, at the main campus. The 16 area A and AA high schools competing are: (A) Beecher H.S., Grant Park H.S., Illiana Christian School, Momence H.S., Mount Assisi Academy, Reed-Custer H.S., (AA) Joliet Catholic Academy, Joliet West H.S., Lemont H.S., Leyden H.S., Lincoln-Way H.S., Minooka H.S., Morris H.S., Oswego H.S., Plainfield H.S. and West Chicago H.S.

Jewelry Sale

JJC Jewelry Clinic will hold a jewelry sale on Wednesday, March 17, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the cafeteria. Items available for purchase are earrings, pins, pendants, rings, bracelets, beads and beads in gold, silver, copper, brass, niobium, glass and semi-precious stones.

Guest Recital

Pianist Michael Fritsch will perform in the Fine Arts Theater on

Tuesday, March 16, at 7:30 p.m. The program will include works by Mozart, Beethoven, MacDowell and Barber. Admission is free. Fritsch is a member of the music faculty at the College of DuPage and is currently first vice president of the Illinois State Music Teachers Association. For more information, call the campus of ext. ARTS.

Spring Concert

The JJC Percussion Ensemble will present its Spring Concert on Tuesday, May 4, at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theater under the direction of Terry Peoples.

Planetarium

Upcoming planetarium shows include "Wonders of the Night," shown at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 4, "Worlds in Motion," on Tuesday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m.; and "Larry, Cat in Space," at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 25.

Holistic Wellness

March is national nutrition month. The Holistic Wellness Center has many activities slated, including cooking workshops, a session on helping people with eating disorders and a presentation about how much fat is too much. For more information, go to the Wellness office in D 1012.

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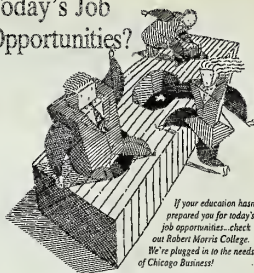
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Most people telling lesbianism like it is

by Alyson Newquist

With the steady infiltration of the American gay culture into the collective conscience of the masses comes a new wave of films revolving around female-female relationships. This is certainly, in most cases, a step forward in trying to make the public realize that lesbianism isn't, or shouldn't be, anything shocking.

From the highly popular *Cloning Amy*, an unrealistic portrayal of the "conversion" of lesbian comic book guru into a love-don't-hate heterosexual, to the banned-in-India film *Fire*, a tale of unspoken lust in a taboo-filled Indian setting, independent films are taking the lead in revealing a sub-culture quickly moving its way above ground.

These movies move away from the traditional pornography style used to portray gay female relations by

conveying the confusion and innocence of being young, being female and being in love with another female.

The Incredibly True Tale of Two Girls in Love falls into this lesbian-come-of-age genre. In *Two Girls in Love*, Randy and Evie, opposites separated by social class and personal interests, find themselves through their forbidden love.

Also in the teen lesbian category is *All Over Me*, starring Allison Folland and Lesbia Haley from the movie group *The Mommies*. It is a story of the prejudices and ignorance surrounding homosexuality.

Mainstream movie stars like Jennifer Tilly, Uma Thurman and Ally Sheedy appear in *Bound*, *Even Cowgirls Get the Blues* and *High Art* (possibly the best movie of last year) respectively, doing more for the art

of lesbian independent films by creating a much needed nonchalance as opposed to the usually shocked attitudes regarding lesbianism.

Documentary-style films are also gaining widespread acceptance with black and white flicks like *Go Fish*, a study of one woman's search for love within her small lesbian community.

There are also mainstream movies like *Wild Things* that involve a 10-second clip of two girls kissing that claims attention as being a lesbian film, wrapped up within a heterosexual film when all it is a lame attempt to get teenage boys riled up.

None of these movies fall into the man-hating dyke genre. They simply open doors to a world long existing but always blocked by homophobia and prejudice.

Letters to the Editor

Ding, Ding, Ding to the reviewer's trolley

Dear Editor,

Kudos to Carole Sharwarco for her game to get down clean with *Up/Up/Up/Up/Up*, the Diffranco CD that Sharwarco apologized for deigning to review at all given her lack of enthusiasm for Diffranco's earlier discs.

Does anyone at JJC read any of the music reviews in the *Blazer*? Ever! Erica Gallagher's pieces were often fabulous, but nobody ever reacted: hard, country, rock, punk, easy-listening, nada! I begin to wonder if music lovers locally are just faddaholics feeding their manias daily to justify their failure to perform in other cultural, political, and educational venues—i.e. cybertoughs.

But free C.D. in hand, Sharwarco pays her dues by do-whopping into

Diffranco's voice quality, instrumental arrangements and charts, lyrics, difficulties and resolutions, philosophical meanings and implications. Sharwarco spins syntax-webs like "mixing funk, blues, jazz, and folksy sound that was slathered around like uneven marmalade..."

JJC's Blues Bros ought to stand up and salute before the Sharwarco Trolley "Ding, ding, dings" into a Bob Dylan disco. You don't often encounter a writer struggling harder to justice to her subject. She well might have trampled down the package some, but her effort to get it right justifies high praise in this evidently thankless world of being a music critic.

Sincerely,
John Stobart

Student Response

What's your beef with the cafeteria food?



"I want pig feet with hot sauce."

-Willie Washington, sophomore



"The quality and variety is good, but the quantity isn't enough."

-Lisa Cleiply, freshman



"Just healthier food like rice, pasta and steamed vegetables."

-Steve Davis, freshman



"I could not be happier with the culinary arts program here. I would also like to say that I like the bread."

-Daniel Laib, sophomore



"The food is not bad, however, it should be more available, especially at night."

-Luke Sikora, sophomore



"It would be nice to have chitterlings for lunch and grits for breakfast."

-Tracy Phillips, freshman



"I would like to see more vegetarian choices."

-Terrance Johnson, sophomore



"I think we should get some fast food chains in here."

-Dorothee Landburg, freshman

Letter Policy

The *Blazer* encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, or drop them off at the *Blazer* office at G1009. The mailing address of the *Blazer* is:

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e-mail blazer@jcc.edu

Bagging the beach

by Becca Sailor

I've been worried about the plight of the jobless college student over spring vacation from March 8-12. Often unemployment goes hand-in-hand with being broke, so you might not have the money for an all-inclusive vacation to South Padre Island or Ft. Lauderdale. But if you don't have plans to walk to Iowa, read on.

Don't worry. I checked with a travel agent, and the warm places have been taken. Other kids got those tickets. . . the kids with foresight. But you don't have to be rich or a good planner to whip up at the last minute spring break for yourself. You just have to be weird.

I checked out an internet site called "Hidden America" at www.hiddenamerica.com. It listed all kinds of activities for the creative vacationer. For example, you could take a trip to Findland, Minn., for St. Uro's Day. This festival celebrates the saint who rid Finland of glass-shoppers, and includes a beauty pageant, ethnic food and a parade. Go the extra mile and rent a glass-shopper suit to frighten some Finnish children for fun.

If you are in the mood for a drive, why not head to the Annual Ovriv Festival in Chandler, Ariz., or the Monte Vista Sandhill Crane Festival in Colorado? Perhaps you would be interested in the "World's Largest Rattlesnake Roundup" in Sweetwater, Tex., featuring dancin',

cookin' and rattler eatin'. Get back to nature by welcoming back the turkey vultures during Annual Buzzard Day in Hinkley, Okla.

For a truly educational trip, go to Hodgenville, Ky., to visit the location where Lincoln was REALLY born. Then ask yourself why Illinois gets all the credit. Win some tuition money gambling at the wackily-named "HoChunk" casino in Wisconsin. You only have to be 18 years old to lose or life savings. Read John Margoth's book *Fun Along the Road* to get directions to giant statues of Paul Bunyan and Babe, his blue ox. Travel to tiny, creepy towns with maple syrup festivals and give their dying communities some much needed tourist dollars.

You may choose to take my advice and fill your soul with unique adventure, or fester at home in misery. Either way, be GLAD you aren't going on a bland sunshine tour where you are corralled through spring break like a bunch of college-vacation-package sheep.

Being out of school should be good enough without going anyplace fancy. Get your friends together, toss your spare money and brains in one big pile and see what you come up with for fun.

Whatever you do, make sure you leave enough room in your luggage for hazzard t-shirts and rattlesnake jerky. Those memories will last longer than any sunbather.

Influential instructor and group leader retires

by Stephanie Busbey

Dr. William Zales has been called "an outstanding teacher," "dedicated to his students and the environment," "one of the greats," "an inspiration," and "a Renaissance man." He will certainly be missed, retiring at the end of the spring semester after teaching at JUC for 33 years.

"He came here as a young teacher and taught his whole life here," said Dr. Michael Lee, the Natural Sciences Department Chairman.

Zales has taught botany, plant taxonomy, plant morphology, taxidermy, a lab ecology class and a field ecology class. The field ecology class is a summer session class that Zales started in 1975, which consists of fieldwork in Wyoming.

Dr. Arthur Wagner, the Natural Sciences Department Chairman from 1963 to 1989, who originally approved Zales to be hired, said that he "would consider him overall to be a very outstanding teacher. He worked with students in a variety of courses in addition to putting together new courses."

Zales also designed and built the campus arboretum and was instrumental in building the campus trails and restoring the prairie land on campus. "The give of himself very freely, coming out many Saturdays without pay to further the institution, making sure the prairie and the lake were kept in good order," said Wagner.

Zales says he has no complaints about anything that he has done for the campus. "I just couldn't imagine teaching without the lake, forested land, and restored prairie. It's made the experience for the students much better and it was a great opportunity for me to use as an outdoor lab," Zales said.

Andrew Neill, who has been sharing an office with Zales for six years, is happy to take over the job of Lund Steward of the campus natural areas. "Bill gave me the opportunity



Dr. Zales has a few laughs with the members of Grassroots (from left) Stephanie Busbey, Jennifer Benedict and Kim Vogen. photo by Shane Lindus

to inherit many of his projects because of our common interests," Neill said. "I was excited to take some of them. I say some because he has many."

"It sounds like I'm going to have some pretty big shoes to fill, and a long mustache to grow."

Zales also started the Life Science Club, now called Grassroots. He originally started the club "primarily to provide an opportunity for more field work," but the students have gotten politically involved as well. He has taken groups of students from the club to the Smoky Mountains, bogs in New York, swamps in southern Illinois, prairie in Iowa, and the Rocky Mountains. He's also taken students to Southern Illinois State Parks like Giant City, Garden of the Gods, Crab Orchard Wildlife Refuge.

"Zales is a vanishing breed of biologists, regrettably," said Neill. "He represents the classic characteristics of a biologist who knows the natural history of the life that he studies. Biologists of his time were rare."

"Today's biologists are laboratory

biologists. They do more work indoors than outdoors, and fewer and fewer biologists know the native plants and animals. That's sad."

"Many of his students went on to success in Biology and have come back to thank him for getting them started and influencing them," said Wagner.

"He really does care about teaching people. If he sees the fire in you, he'll put the gasoline on it for you and make it grow," said Jennifer Benedict, Grassroots president and Zales' student.

Many people in Zales' field respect him for his vast knowledge and involvement. "We're all professional biologists in this department, but we all respect and look up to him for what he does and what he knows," said Lee. "People who are trained like he is and are interested in environmental issues like he is are hard to find."

Zales has been very involved in protecting the natural areas of the college as well as in the community. He has played a very strong role in the formation of the Old Plank Road

Trail, which is a biking and hiking trail. He has been involved with the Old Plank Road Trail project for 18 years. His interest in the trail lies mainly on the restoration of the virgin Illinois prairie that surrounds the trail.

He says he has enjoyed being involved in open lands projects on campus and off, working with the Will County Forest Preserve Open Lands Project on the I & M Canal Natural Heritage Corridor and the Old Plank Road Trail.

"Probably the biggest thing we'll miss about Zales is that he protects the campus natural areas," Lee said.

When asked what he plans to do in retirement, Zales said "There's a lot of basic botany that I need to do, basic field research that I never had time to do."

Zales said that he will be consorting with the Nature Conservancy and some other universities. He plans on moving to his property in Iowa, where he will further his studies of prairie ecology on his prairie land.

"I've enjoyed my son and daughter and my wonderful wife. I

have two successful children and a happy wife. There's a lot of North America that we haven't seen yet, so my wife and I plan on doing a lot of traveling," Zales said.

Zales has two hobbies that he enjoys: taxidermy and restoring antique John Deere tractors. Neill says he is a very talented taxidermist. He sat in on one of his classes once and he was "amazed at the wealth of knowledge that he gives to his taxidermy students."

"From one group to another, he gives so many pointers on all of the subtleties, it was amazing, he was completely in his element."

Zales says he has been outdoors person "since forever." He says he has always been interested in natural areas.

"You can tell he feels so at home and connected outside in the prairie and in the woods," said Jennifer Benedict, Grassroots president and Zales' student. Neill said that every day Zales still finds something new after all the years he has been at JUC.

"When he finds mushrooms outside, growing on the side of some stump, he picks them up, brushes it off and fires them up without cleaning them, saying, 'Oh a little dirt never hurt anyone,'" said Benedict.

Neill and Benedict both said how they like Zales' philosophy on life.

"His philosophy in life and the earth is just amazing," said Benedict.

"When you go to his place in Iowa, he has bird houses made out of old barking boxes. In the cabin, almost everything is recycled. That is so inspiring to me. It makes me really think about the way I live my life."

"He even picks up road kill and uses it for his taxidermy class, saving what meat he can from it."

"I know that he's going to be happy in Iowa, and for that I can be happy for him," Benedict said.

Zales has proven himself to be irreplaceable, and will be missed by many.

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Features

JJC boots up for '99

by Sky Freeman

The Technology Committee replaced the old student e-mail account system of 1998, known as Webmail, with the new Microsoft's Exchange/ Outlook System for the new school year in 1999.

The new system is not only faster and more advanced than the original, but is also updated with better features to prepare students for today's business world.

"The calendar is a wonderful feature of the new e-mail system," said Patrice Fine, director of student services and activities. "Students can keep their schedules online and develop their own contacts (address books)."

Contacts are used to make mailing lists and to send e-mail. They could then find an e-mail address of any other account holder using the Find Names icon. To clear up junk mail, Public Folders are used as bulletin boards for special events.

Planning meetings for student activities and social events are some good uses according to Christopher Boyk, student representative for the Technology Committee. For security, Log Off will close an account when it's off-line.

Last year 2,500 to 3,000 accounts existed in the previous system. On Jan. 29, the estimate was about 1,000. The statistics are figured everyday as applications are accepted. The List Serve allow some classes to subscribe in order for teachers to send messages to their students through e-mail. "This system was ranked number one over all services in a leading technology magazine," Boyk said.

Fliers are available at the Student Center Information Desk to answer any questions about policies and registration. To prevent any possible illegal acts, the computers are monitored. If anyone is believed to violate these rules, their accounts can be terminated. All violations and

complaints must be reported to postmaster@jjc.cc.il.us. Fire commented, "All in all, students have been very respectful of this privilege."

Only students enrolled in college credit courses at Joliet Junior College are eligible to obtain student e-mail accounts. Funds are raised by an extra \$4 technology fee added to class registration fees so the service costs nothing, however applicants must sign an agreement to follow all policies. The Student E-Mail Training session is being held at the Cyber Cafe to help account holders operate their e-mail.

Accounts can be activated 24-48 hours after the time of registration from computer laboratories on campus. A common error that a person often makes is activating it twice, causing a longer waiting period. Check the Student Center to find out what locations and hours are available.



Culinary Arts students' Valentine's Day ice sculptures.

photo by Corinne Shurlock

Job-listing website eases search hassles

by Lorraine Guerrero

Do you want to make money? Do you want to make money doing something in your field of interest or which you are receiving your degree in? No matter what a person's experience level, jobs and internships are available through JJC new job placement program, The College Employment Network (CEN).

CEN is a job listing website. Computers will now be used instead of paper and pen. This makes job searches easier and more convenient for everyone. It is a chance to see what kinds of jobs are out there, especially

within specific fields of study, and which are best suited to personal needs.

CEN gives students and community members access to between 800 and 1,000 current job openings at no cost. Anyone without a computer can use the school's computers for the job placement program.

"It is a great opportunity for students to get hands on experience while going to school," said Mary Anne Buckman, director of career planning and placement services.

JJC Career Planning and

Placement Office, in partnership with Illinois Community College Career Centers is responsible for implementing the CEN. The program is sponsored by the Daily Herald Newspapers.

All a student or community member has to do is call the college at (615) 280-2756 or go to the Student Service Center to get a password and simple instructions to enter the web site. Counselors and faculty who have requested so are authorized to give students passwords also.

The only requirements for receiving a password is that the

person must live in the JJC district or be a student or alumnus of JJC. Part-time jobs, full time and internships are available for all fields.

These fields include but are not limited to: Accounting, Finance and Banking, Agriculture, Automotive, Architectural/ Civil, Business Administration, Computer Service, Construction/ Trades, Counseling/ Human Service, Design including Fashion Design and Merchandising, Interior Decorating, Education and Library Training, Engineering/ Technical training, Graphics, Health Occupations, Hospitality;

Journalism, Writing and Language; Landscape; Legal Technology; Personal Salon Care; Recreation and Fitness, including Coaching and other things; Safety training, including things like Police, EMT, Fire Science and Paramedic training; Sales; Marketing; Science (Lab technician and Chemistry technician); Secretarial and Transportation.

Joliet Junior College will also be hosting its annual Job Fair at City Center Campus on April 7, 1999. More information will soon be available.

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Sports

Strong recruiting class will increase hopes for the Wolves' 1999 football season

by Dan Gutierrez

On the fourth of this month, high school seniors across the country were signing autographs. After months of picking and choosing, it was time to officially sign a national letter of intent to play football at their choice of colleges across the country. While many colleges focused mainly on high school seniors, Joliet Junior College coaches looked more closely at transfer students.

This year's recruiting class

consists of more than a dozen transfers from Division I-A schools. Recently JJC coach Thomas Minnick spoke about this year's incoming class.

"This is a very good recruiting class," said Minnick, who coached at College of DuPage before coming to JJC this year. "They could all be key performers... especially on defense."

The JJC defense was in need of a good recruiting, due in part to the departure of stand-outs Willie

Washington, Ficu Tava and All-American Jason Fleming.

This year's recruits include linebackers Derrick White from Eastern Kentucky and Travis Devose from Butler in Oklahoma.

Other key recruits include defensive lineman Ray Griffin (Bethune Cookman), Brian McGee from Farmington Hills, Mich., and Chaz Barclay from Ulica, Mich. Another key spot for recruiting was on the offensive line. In past years, this has been a weak point of

the offense, but the addition of Brad Jacobs from Iowa State, John Smith from Benedictine College, Kerry Graghy from NE Louisiana State, and Rob Szazak from Providence Catholic H.S. should help in forming a strong offensive line.

The Wolves' offense should get a big boost from wide receivers Ronnie Mason from Purdue and Larry Johnson from Anderson, Ind. Jesse Isom from Trinity College hopes to step in and fill the void left by departed quarterback Lonnie

Hentle.

With the graduation of stand-out tailback Midehl Peters, Terrance Banks from Holmes Junior College in Gary, Ind. could lead the Wolves' ground assault.

Overall, this could be one of the finest recruiting classes ever arriving at Joliet Junior College. With a good blend of fresh faces and veteran players, the Wolves stand a good chance of its second straight winning season and possibly a chance to play in a bowl game.

Upcoming JJC

Sports Events:

Wolves Baseball

March 6-13:
Spring Trip: Nashville, Tenn.

March 16:
Morton College: Home: 2:30

March 18:
Prairie State College: Home: 2:30

March 20:
College of Lake County: Home: DH: 12:00

March 21:
McHenry County College: Home: DH: 12:00

March 23:
Moraine Valley CC: Home: 2:30

March 24:
Moraine Valley CC: Away: 2:30

March 26:
Kankakee CC: Home: 2:30

March 27:
Waukegan County Tech.: Away: DH: 12:00

Lady Wolves Softball

March 5-13:
Spring Trip: Galveston Island, Texas

March 17:
Lewis University: Home: 2:30

March 21:
Kishwaukee College: Home: 12:00

March 23:
Prairie State College: Away: 2:30

March 25:
University of St. Francis JV: Home: 3:00

March 27:
Moraine Valley CC: Away: 12:00

March 30:
University of St. Francis JV: Away: 5:00

March 31:
Oakton College: Home: 2:30

April 3:
Harper College*: Away: 12:00



Lady Wolves gear up for the season

photos by Steve Lindor



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Sports

With warm weather near, Wolves baseball is here

by Dan Gutierrez

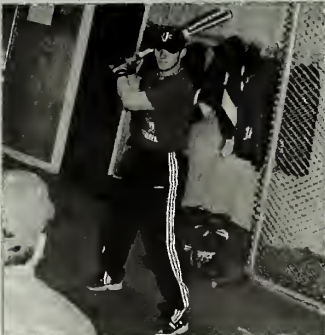
When a person thinks of a championship team, many things come to mind. One of these things is experience. Even though this year's JJC baseball team includes 17 freshmen, Coach Wayne King is optimistic about the group.

One of the major concerns following last year's season was the outfield players, largely due to the fact that all of the outfielders last year were sophomores. This year King has six new outfielders on his roster. Freshman newcomers include John Rauen from West Aurora and Ryan Koerner from Minooka. The outfield will be strengthened by the addition of transfer student Kirk Bedinger from Joliet.

The infield should be solid for the Wolves. Sophomore shortstop Mark Blackburn from Joliet, second baseman Dave Simmons and Eric Blaser, both from Lockport, should form a foundation for this year's infield.

The pitching staff could be very consistent for this season. Freshmen Nick Amato from Lemont and Brandon Ricketts from Reed-Custer should mix well with returning sophomores Nick Morris from Joliet, Matt Eggen from Proviso West and Kevin Strich from Morris to form a formidable pitching staff.

Another sophomore who King



The Wolves prepare for another successful season.

photo by Shane Landry

will look to in the late innings is closer Scott Lucht for Cossia Park.

The ultimate goal for this team, is to reach the national tournament in Batavia, N.Y.

In order to accomplish this, the team will have to win key games against Division III rivals Waukegan, Harper, Rock Valley and Illinois Valley. Sophomores on the

team will be depended upon for leadership of the less experienced players.

With their first game only a few weeks away on March 6, the team has been practicing daily, with some help from Mother Nature. The unusually warm weather lately allowed them to start outdoor practices on Feb. 9.

Wolves have a hopeful appearance heading into tournament, despite the loss to Oakton.

At one point, the Lady Wolves were ranked 11th in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III poll.

Several players helped JJC to that recognition considering that Rendle is atop the N4C in scoring, rebounds, field goal percentage and steals. Also, sophomore Lisa Ciepely leads the conference in assists and Mary McNair is second in both scoring and assists.

Johnson displayed optimism about entering the tournament, "As long as we come together as a team and just play hard we'll be fine."

for JJC.

Even though the loss slipped the Lady Wolves record to 16-12, their regular season efforts were enough to claim a second-seed and a first-round bye in the upcoming tournament.

The eight day rest period could not have come at a better time because the team is a little bruised from the season fight.

"We had a bunch of players injured in the last game," said Johnson. "But by the (semi-finals on) Saturday we should be fine."

Either Rock Valley or Triton will travel to JJC for the semifinal matchup on Feb. 27.

With a healthy lineup the Lady

by Mark Malone

Following a semifinal knock-out from top-seeded Harper College, the Joliet Junior College men's basketball is sent back to the drawing board until next season.

The Wolves entered the Region IV Division III Tournament as the defending champions, but the Wolves finished the 1998 regular season in a slump. Their unexpected breakdown resulted in two consecutive losses at the end of the season along with a 14-16 regular-season record.

JJC promptly ended the two game losing stint in the tournament against the Illinois Valley Apaches with an 88-70 victory at home on Tuesday, Feb. 16.

Escorted by a 16-0 second-half explosion, the win was the 20th consecutive against the Apaches.

Overall in the game, the Wolves had five players reach double figures en route to the first round triumph. Mike Ellis paved the way by nailing five three-pointers that helped surmount his game high 21 points. Jason Chandler kept pace by shooting 3-of-6 from three point range for 19 points, while his 13 assists and 12 rebounds secured his third triple double of the year.

Ellis and Chandler had consistently been the two key components for the Wolves throughout the season. In fact, Ellis led the team in scoring with 18.7 ppg, and three-pointers made with 11.3. His 4.5 rebounds, 3.7 assists

and 1.7 steals rounded-out an impressive stat sheet.

Meanwhile Chandler certainly did not disappoint, posting 16.2 ppg, 5.9 rebounds, 3.1 assists and 1.7 steals to keep the double threat combo alive and well. Also, Jim Hillock made a convincing impression with his team leading 7.8 rebounds combined with 10.9 ppg.

Other notable leaders during the season had Mark Blackburn backed by two team leading totals with 9.1 assists and 1.9 steals. In addition, Ellis edged the rest of the team with a 76 percent shooting from the free throw line. Chandler generated a 39 percent mark from three point range, and a surprising Mike Wollgast led the team with a 51.3 field goal percentage for the Wolves.

But, JJC needed a flawless performance against No. 1 seeded Harper in the semifinals on Friday, Feb. 19. In the end the conference heavyweight snuck away with a 91-85 victory.

Both Ellis and Blackburn went out in style during their final game for the Wolves. Ellis gathered 22 points, while Blackburn contributed 25 points and 12 assists.

Also Chandler added 19 points and eight rebounds, and sophomore Erik Walton had 11 points and 15 rebounds for the losing cause.

After the loss the Wolves concluded the season with a 15-17 overall record and now begin their preparation for next year.

Lady Wolves fresh for tournament run

by Mark Malone

Despite falling 66-52 in the final game of the season to Oakton College, the JJC women's basketball team appears to possess a qualified lineup entering the Region IV Division III Tournament.

"We played really well until that last game," said JJC coach Tim Johnson. "We kind of fell apart, but we accomplished what we set out to by getting a second seed."

Fighting through injuries, the Lady Wolves looked to freshman Felicia Randle who battled for 21 points in a losing effort against Oakton. Also, Erin Welsh gathered eight points and 11 rebounds, while Mary McNair contributed 11 points

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Just Talkin' Sports

Growing trend widespread in the decade of 'repeat'

by Dan Gutierrez

While I was watching John Elway and Terrell Davis lead the Denver Broncos to their second consecutive Super Bowl victory, a thought dawned upon me. The 1990s have been a decade full of winning and losing repeats.

This recurring trend has been seen in almost every sport, at every level. Why is it that the 90s have seen so many teams dominate their respective sports for years at a time?

This has been seen in the NFL, with the Dallas Cowboys and Denver Broncos both repeating as champions in recent years. On the flip side of that you have the Buffalo Bills, losers of four straight Super Bowls.

Basketball has seen this new trend in the form of a threepeat, repeat,

followed by another threepeat. This was done by the Bulls, Houston Rockets and the Bulls once again.

It is not a new thing to see specific teams rule their sports divisions for years at a time. In the 50s the New York Yankees were tops in baseball. The Boston Celtics owned the NBA for most of the 70s. The 80s saw the San Francisco 49ers reign in the NFL. But there has never been a single decade before which has seen so many teams win consecutive championships, in their different sports.

Could it be that in a time when it is not uncommon to see a one year winner, like the Florida Marlins in 1997, there could be more teams that own their sports for years at a time? I remember a time when, at the start

of a season, there were four or five teams that had a legitimate chance of winning a championship. Obviously, it has been awhile since that case held true in the NBA.

This new trend is not really a bad thing, it just takes a little fun away from the fans. It seems like every year you know who's going to win the title.

Did anyone ever seriously doubt that the Broncos would repeat this year? Not really, the only real question was whether they would go undefeated.

The 90s will be remembered as a decade that was full of memorable moments, great games and great players. It will also be remembered as the decade of the repeat and threepeat.

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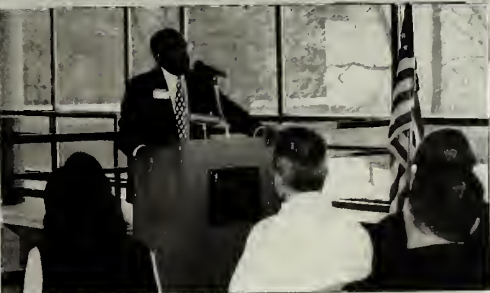
by Carole Shawaruko

The ceremony to induct new Joliet Junior College Director of Campus Safety and Security and Chief of Campus Police Steven L. Bennett on Wednesday, March 3, was pretty much like any other formal ceremony. That is, until, after many introductory speakers, Bennett himself got up and began to speak about his goals and hopes regarding his new position at JJC.

On hand were several higher-ups on the JJC ladder, including President J.D. Ross. Ross said he believes that Bennett is the right man for what he called "community-oriented policing."

"I expect to support him fully in the upcoming year," said Ross. "I'm confident that the search committee did a wonderful job."

Bennett is the culmination of a nearly one-year search for a person to fill the position of chief of police. The search committee consisted of several faculty and staff members of JJC. Bennett had several interviews and, when all was said and done, the members of the search committee seemed quite confident that they had



Police Chief Steven L. Bennett addresses the crowd at his swearing-in ceremony.

photo by Carole Shawaruko

made the right choice.

One member of the committee to speak was JJC Counselor Ed Johnson. He said the committee looked for a person with high standards and integrity, vision and

leadership abilities. He said, "I'm convinced beyond a shadow of a doubt that we've more than fit the bill by hiring Bennett."

After a few more speakers, Bennett was called up to the front and read the regulations of promise to which he was about to swear. Bennett was sworn in and received a standing ovation.

He then stepped up to the podium to address the crowd, but as soon as he opened his mouth his voice cracked and tears sprang to his eyes.

"I'm a man," he said, "but I'm not afraid to cry."

He went on to tell those in attendance about his plans for policing JJC. Mainly, he says, he wants to maintain a community atmosphere and is eager to meet and greet staff, faculty and students alike.

Also, he emphasized that he has an open-door policy.

"You can count on me for any of your needs," Bennett said. "I'm ready and willing to do the job."

He wants to do his best to usher JJC into the year 2000. He says of the school, "We'll get to where you want it to be."

And he's not leaving any time soon. "I hope to be here as long as you need and want me to be."

Bennett is grateful to the search committee for choosing him and for everyone making him feel so welcome on his first day. He doesn't know quite how he fell into the position, but takes solace in the fact that he believes it was meant for him.

"The divine power gives you what you need, when you need it, at the appropriate time. This is my time."



Steven Bennett is sworn in as police chief of JJC.

photo by Carole Shawaruko

Tuition raised despite higher enrollment

by Stephanie Bosbey

Despite a 4.6 percent increase in enrollment during the 1998-99 school year, one of the highest JJC has ever seen, tuition will increase next year by \$2, raising total student costs to \$51 per credit hour.

This increase makes JJC's tuition and fees about 12 percent higher than the average total costs of 11 neighboring community colleges.

The tuition increase was included in the financial plan put together by Vice President of Business Services, Tom Ryan, in January 1998.

"The financial plan is made up of a lot of estimates and assumptions," said Ryan. "Basically, every year we sit down and make our next best guesses."

As enrollment increases, Ryan explains, "revenue goes up, but costs go up as well." When enrollment increases, either more people are packed into existing classes, or new classes are added and new teachers must be paid.

"The way to think about this is what would we do or not do without the \$2 increase," said Ryan. "You

Neighboring Community Colleges

College	Tuition	Fees	Total
Kankakee	\$35.50	\$2.50	\$38.00
Heartland	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$40.00
Elgin	\$43.00	\$0.00	\$43.00
Waubesaee	\$41.00	\$3.50	\$44.50
Tru	\$43.00	\$1.50	\$44.50
DiUogo	\$39.82	\$5.18	\$45.00
Joliet Junior College	\$42.00	\$7.00	\$49.00
Moraine Valley	\$44.00	\$5.00	\$49.00
Illinois Valley	\$48.00	\$1.75	\$49.75
Harper	\$50.83	\$1.50	\$52.33
South Suburban	\$51.00	\$3.00	\$54.00
Prairie State	\$53.00	\$3.00	\$56.00
Average	\$44.26	\$2.83	\$47.09

Shown above are the tuition rates and averages for surrounding junior colleges as they compare to Joliet Junior College. JJC is seventh down, almost right in the middle. The new tuition rate, however, will be raised \$2, taking it to \$44 and JJC to the ninth position.

can't do everything you want to do in the budget. We are increasing tuition so that we can maintain and improve the quality of education at the campus."

The budget process is just beginning, and college-wide issues are being taken into account. Plans for improvements at JJC include expanding hours computer labs are open to students, including evening and weekend hours. In order to increase the computer lab hours, more technical staff will have to be hired. Right now the technical staff salaries come out of the technology fee fund.

"We're trying to get to the point where we're using all of that money (from the technology fee) for equipment rather than salaries," said Ryan.

Establishing online classes is in the works as well.

Ryan would also like to see student support services expanded, with evening and weekend hours available. Ryan feels it is important that students with evening courses get the help they need.

"We want you guys to be good,

Continued on page 3

Largest Job Fair in JJC history to be held at City Center

by Carole Sharwark

The Largest Regional Job Fair that Joliet Junior College has ever seen is scheduled for Wednesday, April 7. It will be held at the City Center Campus Renaissance Center from 2 p.m. until 7 p.m.

This job fair is a collaborative effort by area businesses and the JJC Career Planning and Placement and is headed by Mary Anne Buckman of that office.

"This is truly a collaborative effort," says Buckman.

Several businesses in the area have agreed to help the college and the proponents of the job fair by donating money and making the fair known to the public.

Christian Charities is helping, along with the Joliet Herald News, which has volunteered to place advertisements in upcoming issues

promoting the fair and the Economic Development Centers of Will and Grundy Counties and the Brookbrook area.

These organizations are doing their best to recruit area business owners and those who are considering owning a business in the area to the job fair in an effort to propel the growth of the business sectors in their respective areas.

The Career Planning and Placement office has since registered 100 employers in the job fair, the most the Renaissance Center can possibly hold. They did have to pay \$50 for their space which Buckman believes will be "incentive to do their best in recruiting as many employees as they need."

The money collected from fees is going completely to fund the fair, mostly for placing advertisements.

JJC's 1999 Regional Job Fair is open to all students, as well as any district residents who wish to attend. There is no entrance fee.

Also, because of limited parking at the City Center Campus, some people's unwillingness to drive in downtown Joliet, Buckman says, there will be shuttle buses leaving the Main Campus from T-lot at 1:30 p.m. and every half hour after.

Buses will return to Main Campus T-lot beginning at 3 p.m. and every hour following. Buckman believes this should prove very convenient, especially for students who have class that day.

There will be a wide variety of jobs available for application. Examples include: Merrill Life Insurance Company, employment agencies, five area banks, Toys R Us, Blockbuster Music, Caterpillar Inc.,

Chicago Land Rovers, JATC, Empress Casino, Federal Express, Harrah's Joliet Casino, Innovative Industries, Joliet Public Schools, Lencaster's, Loews Theaters, Media One, Nicor Gas, True Green-Chemlawn, UPS and Will County Sheriff's Office to name a few.

Buckman and the Career Planning and Placement office suggest that people attending the job fair bring a resume with them. If a person is unsure about making a resume, people in the Career Planning and Placement office are willing to help and will acquire an applicant with a resume-creating software to get started. They will then help make the resume more personalized.

If interested in making a resume and otherwise preparing for the application process at the job fair, packets entitled "Making the Most

of the Job Fair" are available in D1010.

Also grape lollipops soon will be available. Purchased by the Career Planning and Placement office, the lollipops have sticks that will contain job fair information and will be available in the cafeteria and on the bridge.

Buckman hopes for a large turnout and says, "This job fair is a first in terms of collaboration, size and the broad, diverse nature of job opportunity."

Employers, she says will be looking for all kinds of employees. Part-time and full-time positions will be available in all kinds of skill levels, from someone with a bachelor's degree to someone right out of high school. Some employees are only looking for summer positions, while others need people a long-term basis.

News Briefs

Employment

Over the next few weeks, representatives from the U.S. Census Bureau will be on campus giving an equivalency exam to anyone interested in getting a job with the bureau. The test only takes 30 minutes and you can apply on the spot. Pay rate for the jobs ranges from \$9.75-\$16.50 per hour.

The positions are temporary, however, but mostly the hours are self-chosen. Full and part-time positions are available. For more information or to register, contact Laurie at 730-469-2597.

Newman Club

The JJC Newman Club will hold a discussion entitled "Essentials of the Catholic Faith/Symbols" on Wed., Apr. 7, in 2001A from 12 p.m. until 1 p.m.

Scholarship

The Independent Accountants Association of Illinois Scholarship Foundation will again this year present three \$1,000 awards to college students throughout Illinois. Students interested in pursuing a career in the field of accounting should complete an application that can be acquired by calling 309-342-5400.

Applications should be mailed to IAAI Executive Office, P.O. Box 1506, Galesburg, IL 61402-1506, on or before June 30, along with transcripts and letter of recommendation, as stated on the application.

Winners will be selected prior to Sept. 1 and will be notified by mail. All participating schools will also be advised of the winners.

Multimedia Seminar

JJC will host "Introduction to Multimedia," a seminar meeting from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Mon., March 29. The fee is \$125.

Participants explore the various uses of multimedia applications for business and learn how presentations can be enhanced through hands-on exercises using multimedia authoring packages.

For more information call Kristin Reef at 280-1403 or visit the website at iel.jjc.cc.il.us.

College Fair

JJC will host an Adult Student College Fair on Wed., March 24, from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Main Campus. Chicago-area colleges and universities will be in attendance to talk to students about educational opportunities specially designed for

adult students, technical training and how to obtain a GEO.

Students also can attend informational workshops on financial aid, how to obtain credit outside the classroom, stress reduction, choosing a career and returning to college or beginning as a new student.

Activities for children will be sponsored by JJC's Youth College. For more information call the campus at Ext. 2622.

Reading Tutors

JJC's Center for Adult Basic Education and Literacy is offering free training for adults willing to become certified reading tutors. Upon successful completion of the

training, the volunteer tutors will be awarded certification from JJC, CABEL and Literacy Volunteers of America.

Prospective reading tutors must have a high school diploma, complete the 60-hour program and accept an assignment to tutor an adult for at least one year.

Training workshops will meet from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on April 3 and 10 and 6-9 p.m. on April 5 and 7 at the City Center Campus and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. April 17 and 25 and 6-9 p.m. on April 21 at Joliet Public Library. Other sessions will be held in May and June. For more information and to register call CABEL at 280-1332.

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The Blazer is a student-run publication. Opinions expressed in the Blazer do not necessarily reflect the views of the faculty or administration.

Meet the candidates for JJC Student Trustee

by Sky Freeman

JJC prepares for the upcoming student trustee election, being held on March 24-25. Candidates recently had a chance to state their qualifications, platforms and reasons for running. The four candidates are Harold Wagoner, James McFarland, Chris Boyk and Margaret Tyler.

McFarland promises to work on students' interests such as parking problems in J-Lot, price inflation on school beverages and more study areas toward T-building.

"I am a JJC student," McFarland said. "I have experience with dealing with the public, and I attend school at two of the campuses."

Boyk is a member of JJC's Student Alliance and is concerned with making teachers' syllabuses available before registration, more information on clubs being available to students, installation of a kiosk by T-building and having computer labs open from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. He

also favors AA and AS degrees in the handbooks and a having web page for the student trustee.

"I am a member of JJC," Boyk said. "I have met and will continue to meet with the College Club Council and work with them on certain issues. I am a member of the Student Alliance as their treasurer and the same with Cross Cultural Programming Board. I'm also a member of the Tech Planning Committee, Allocations Committee and the Pepsi Committee."

Tyler presents programs to work on certain issues like locations of study areas, bookstore problems, traffic control and parking, pedestrian traffic, extended hours for the cafeteria, faculty evaluations, greater participation of athletics, evening daycare, indoor smoking areas and classroom balance.

"I have attended the college for more than two years and have



Christopher Boyk



Margaret Tyler



James McFarland



Harold Wagoner

completed 118 hours with a GPA of 3.67," Tyler said. "As such, I have become quite familiar with issues that are of concern to my fellow students. I have had over two decades of experience in the non-academic world and held positions of trust and responsibility, including managing retail stores and owning and running my own business for three years. I am currently an officer of Phi Theta Kappa and, as such, am active in promoting academic excellence."

Wagoner is concerned about more parking in J-Lot, more computers and Internet business classes and a bigger Cyber Cafe. "Length of time spent as a part-time student and student worker, with class and work, I am here 40 hours a week." Because of this, he says, he is familiar with what the school and its students need.

More information on the candidates and their platforms can be found on JJC's home page at jcc.ca.us.

"Tuition"

Continued from page 1

productive, happy students," he said.

The college will be raising part-time faculty salaries by about four percent. "Right now, our tuition is a little over the state's average, and our part-time faculty salary is below the state's average," said Ryan.

There are also plans to improve support services for part-time faculty.

"There is no place for them to go to use a computer, make phone calls, or meet with students. If we can give them better support, we think they'll do a better job," Ryan said.

According to Ryan, half of the money in the college's budget comes from taxes, over one fourth from tuition and fees and under one fourth from state monies.

When deciding what to do with the budget, Ryan says that "everything is looked at together. We don't say what we will do with student fees specifically, or anything else."

The amount of money the college gets from state monies depends on the number of students at the college and on how well the state economy is doing. Ryan usually writes a proposed amount for the state to give the college, depending on rising costs and increasing enrollment, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education and the governor normally accepts the plan. However, the proposed increase for the 1999-2000 school year, 2.58 percent, was rejected.

A new project the state has started is performance-based funding, whereas the college is required to state specifically what they would do with the money to improve the school.

JJC's performance-based funding was to improve technology at the campus for the next four years. According to Ryan, \$1.6 million was allotted for technology improvements, \$700,000 of which came from the student technology fee fund.

New computer lab offers comfort

by Becca Sailor

Although it has not been advertised yet, student traffic to a new computer lab has steadily increased over the last few weeks. With comfortable chairs, new computers and no waiting lines, it is easy to see why.

The lab opened in room J3036 on Feb. 15 and is located within JJC's Learning Resource Center to the left of the front desk. It serves to supplement the computers already in use in the central area of the library and increase computer availability during peak times, like the end of the semester.

"Our purpose was to take up the slack and alleviate the pressure on the terminals in the library itself," says Betty Zarske, JJC's Microcomputer Laboratory Supervisor. "It helps keep the library computers available for services

research."

The lab includes 23 new computers, with two more on the way.

The computers feature Microsoft Office software such as Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access. The room has a laser printer along with a growing library of reference books.

Part-time support staff and student workers are available to provide technical help in the lab. Additionally, students have Internet access for personal or research purposes.

"This way," says Zarske, "students don't have to leave J building room to check their e-mail."

Those who wish to use the new computer lab must provide student identification and sign in upon arrival.

The hours of operation are the same as the library: 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 7:30

a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

A lab directory for all computer labs on campus will soon be available through JJC's website. For further questions about the new lab, call Zarske at Ext. 2637.

Do you feel your needs are met by the current availability of computers?

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Opinion

I've heard of pop icons, but this is ridiculous

by Becca Sailor

Weary with post-spring-break exhaustion, I stumbled from my class to the soda machine. As I readied my 70cents for three and while glowing rectangle. I realized there was no red and white glowing rectangle. All the Coke machines on campus had vanished. I shivered in terror and caffeine withdrawal, wondering where my cola comrades had gone.

The above scenario was fictional. I personally wouldn't have been surprised by the lack of a Coke machine. I've known about its impending disappearance for months. But now it is final.

The absence of the Coke machine has to do with a recent alliance JJC made with the Pepsi-Cola Company. In exchange for exclusive advertising and distribution of Pepsi products on campus, JJC will receive a much larger share of the profits made from the soda machines, possibly bringing in thousands of extra dollars. This agreement also may help to build a new sports facility and provide some tuition assistance.

Some people have suggested that this cola controversy isn't worth all the trouble, or that my irritation lies in the fact that My favorite soda lost. But I'm not angry just because I believe Coca-Cola Classics is the most perfect, delicious and beautiful of all the unnatural beverages on the market. I admit I prefer the elegant, rolling curve on Coke's clean red and white can and will mourn its loss each noon. But I'm mad because one soda had to be marked for death. And that somebody sneaky eliminated the

defeated machine when we were all gone on spring break.

For those of you wondering "what's the big deal," ask yourself why the cola companies are fighting over it so viciously. It's a frivolous choice, but the doesn't matter. I don't mind drinking Pepsi, but I don't want anybody MAKING that decision for me. Such a silly decision, too. I drink Coke already, without signing an allegiance form or getting paid for it. I swing both ways in my cola life—when the mood moves me. I enthusiastically partake in Coke's arch-enemy. Nobody has the right to tell me whom I should find the most attractive.

Some people think that the extra cash for education justifies wheeling and dealing to a caffeinated Supercorporation, that sacrificing a simple beverage is a small price to pay. All in all, the attempt at gaining cash for JJC was born from good intentions. MANY bad ideas have been.

It sounds a little cliché... slightly liberal... kinda extreme to say that JJC "sold out," but darn it, that's what it does. And you're gonna sell it out, sell out to everybody. I can see it now—halfway advertisements for everything from blackhead strips to 900 lines. Even more junk advertising could get stuffed into textbooks at the bookstore. JJC could make a killing printing "Trojan Condoms, official sponsor of the 1999 school year" on the bottom of tuition receipts and transcripts. Did I playchance have to sign a deal for their current dispensing monopoly in the



Only machines filled with Pepsi and their affiliates are left on campus now.

photo by Carole Starnack

women's restrooms?

If JJC needs the revenue so much, why not call Joe Camel and Captain Morgan and see how much money they'll give us? I'm sure that with all JJC's potential nicotine and booze abusers, the alcohol and tobacco industries would give us more than a new stadium. We could end up with our own space shuttle!

The pious shake their heads at this idea, because advertising cigarettes and alcohol sends a bad message to students. But caffeine is bad for you, too. In 40 years, I'm going to love telling my grandchildren stories about how unhealthy soda companies once

sponsored SCHOOLS and encouraged caffeine addiction by getting young people hooked early. They'll be shocked that their health ingested cancer-causing diet pop and that women actually drank Mountain Dew when they were pregnant.

In a politically correct age, it seems hypocritical to eliminate flavors from our cola rainbow when we really need to expand them. Variety is already critically low. I have a dream... that some day minorities like cream soda and strawberry Nehi will sit side by side with Coke and Pepsi. I hope I live to see the day that 7-up is judged by its

lemon-lime flavor instead of its lack of artificial color and conservation efforts make sure that RC Cola no longer faces extinction.

I'm a little disgusted that dominating sports stadiums, fast food restaurants and even a beach in California isn't enough for the Supercolas. They've picked our college to be their next shrine. Nobody should be forced to bow down and add his or her quarters to the church plate of one true God called Pepsi OR Coke. The constitution ensures freedom of speech, religion and press, but I never dream we'd need freedom of soda pop.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Thanks to numerous support services and especially JJC honors students, the annual spring conference of the Honors Council of the Illinois Region, hosted by JJC on Feb. 27, was a great success. Students, faculty and administrators from Honors Programs at more than 15 colleges and universities were unanimous in expressing their appreciation for this year's conference.

Each guest was delighted with the packet of materials which he or she received upon arrival at the conference. Along with HCIR T-shirts, these packets contained paper pads, pencils, pens, key chains and copies of the Wordmaster and Blazer, all contributed by various JJC offices

and departments. Of course, everybody raved about the continental breakfast and luncheon provided by the JJC catering service.

The Feb. 27 HCIR Directors' Meeting minutes will include this statement: "The food was delicious." I was told by a number of honors program directors that they did not want to host next year's conference because JJC's was "too tough an act to follow."

This conference would not have been as successful without the outstanding work done by JJC's honors students. They assisted in planning, setting up rooms, scheduling sessions and composing the program, operating equipment at presentations, registering participants, guiding guests around campus and the least exciting but

very important, cleaning up. Three students, Stephanie Busbey, Amber Hoppeworth and Erica Johnson, made a presentation which was very well received.

Overall, more than a dozen JJC honors students attended the conference, and many more assisted in preparing for it. By the end of the day, I was glowing from the compliments I had received from our guests about our campus and the conference.

Thanks again to the JJC support services and the JJC honors students for all they did to make this year's HCIR conference one of the best ever.

JJC Honors Program Coordinator
and HCIR President,
Peter Neff

Local restaurant wars

by Stephanie Busbey
and Lorraine Guerrero

What do you do when you're hungry, bored, or you just want to hang out with your friends? Students at JJC have several solutions to these problems: Family Table, Sara's Place, Bakers' Square or R-Place. We decided to check out these restaurants. JJC people tend to gather at for ourselves.

R-Place proved to be the most interesting by far. R-Place is located at a truck stop in Morris. When one pictures a truck stop, one often thinks of a greasy, run-of-the-mill burger old diner accompanying a dirty gas station gift shop with cheesy gifts. R-Place is far from this description.

R-Place's walls are covered with antique toys including puppets, model airplanes and bikes. The atmosphere of R-Place is anything but antique. R-Place has a fun, playful feel.

The menu is filled with creative names for their wide selection of foods, such as You Turkey You, The Godfather, Name That Tuna, Shoulda Been There Burger, 007 Burger and Hickory Hickory Dock.

R-Place patrons are challenged to take on the Ethyl Premium Special, four pounds of beef and the chef's choice of toppings for \$17.95. As the menu states, "She's a meal that you'll remember forever." Those brave enough to take on Ethyl and survive get their meal paid for and a picture on the wall. Being vegetarians, this meal did not sound very appealing to us, but the idea is fun in a ranchy, ridiculously disgusting way.

The food at R-Place not only has amusing names, but tastes good, too.

The omnivores who dined with us said they would recommend the dishes they enjoyed, including the Chicken BLT Wrap, the Chicken Ranch Wrapper, and the South Western Stuck and Rack Burger. One omnivore said R-Place "really knows how to cook a burger." Someone else enjoyed the mozzarella cheesesteaks. The cheesesteaks were said to be "better than any cheesesteak I ever had before" and "damn good." The coffee was excellent as well.

The menu does not include many vegetarian options, but does include a Garden Burger and Salad Bar. The Garden Burger wasn't bad, but it did not dazzle us. It has a southwestern taste, served with a mexi-ranch sauce, lettuce, tomato, onion and low fat mozzarella cheese on a homemade roll.

We chose to partake in the delicious bread pudding. It was warmed and topped with rich caramel pecan sauce, whipped cream and a cherry. R-Place prides itself on its in-house bakery. They have coffee cakes, pies, doughnuts, cinnamon rolls, caramel rolls, cookies, brownies, eclairs and cream puffs. The Rocky Road Brownies looked especially tasty.

Good service and good food add up to a great time at R-Place. Being open 24 hours a day is a definite plus. R-Place may be the most expensive and farthest out, but it is all worth it.

A place known for their desserts is Bakers Square. They have the best pie anywhere. People often go there for dessert and coffee. Bakers Square's food, however, deserves just as much praise, if not more. They definitely

Continued on page 6

Letter Policy

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, or drop them off at the Blazer office at G1009. The mailing address of the Blazer is:

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Photograph Smile does the Lennon family proud

by Becky Shinn

Are you a relentless Lennon fan? Do you think that you've heard the last of the John Lennon family? Well look out, because here comes the son! Recently Julian Lennon, John Lennon's older son, released a new, 14-track album called *Photograph Smile*. The resemblance of Julian's voice to his father's on some tracks is absolutely uncanny. However, Julian is not just a man living off of his father's name and fame. *Photograph Smile* is dedicated to the memory of Julian's stepfather, who is the man who was Julian's real, present father figure for most of his life. The album came out on the small Fuel 2000 record label. *Photograph Smile* is the first album put out by Julian in seven years. The album is a mixture of various sounds, thoughts and ideas, but has a lot of emphasis on love and emotions. The compact disc also contains a music video for CD-ROM, an explanation of each track, a short biography of Julian and various links to the Internet.

The first track is entitled "Day After Day." The song is rather upbeat for its topic. It's basically a song of longing for a love who is far away. The theme is common enough, but I think what makes Julian's interpretation of the theme different is his use of the electric guitar and the strings in the background to express his true emotions; specifically, the longing and the wishing that he could be with the one he really loves. Julian's voice goes pressing on pretty strong and even throughout most of the song, not that his voice is emotionless, but rather that his voice expresses his hopefulness for being together again and the instruments express the longing he feels.

The second track is entitled "Cold." The song is about how wonderful his love is, and that he would be left "cold," if she left him. It has a great little acoustic bit in it.

The third track is "I Should Have Known." Julian uses more of a speaking voice than a singing voice throughout most of the song. This



song definitely has potential to be used for social dancing. It has a rather sad tone, however, because the speaker in the song is lamenting his lost love and the idea that he "should have known" that they were not right for one another.

"How Many Times" is a very upbeat track that has a high popular commercial appeal. It could almost be an anthem for a "save the planet" campaign. Julian employs his audience just to think about what they are doing to the earth and to the people of the earth. It has a refrain that people can sing along with by the end of their first listen.

The track "I Don't Wanna Know" is the song that goes along with the music video. The video has numerous Beatles references in it, and is pretty

amusing with a moderate amount of knowledge about The Beatles. The song has quite a bit of repetition of lyrics, but that is part of the appeal, an ability to sing along with it after just a listen or two.

"Crucified" has an Indian feel to it and is probably the most thought-provoking track of the album. The song really has to be interpreted by each individual listening to it and does not deserve a blanket statement

about its content.

Julian Lennon stated in a March 3, 1999, interview on WGN radio conducted by Spike O'Dell that "Walls" is his favorite track from *Photograph Smile*. It is evident that Julian feels strongly about this song, and he seems to put a lot of himself into the song emotionally. "Walls" has absolutely beautiful piano playing in it. It is basically a song about overcoming barriers.

"Believe" is a song that is about relationships that can work if the focus is on love. There is a great little instrumental included in it.

"Good to be Lonely" is definitely folk song inspired. It is a song that really can make the audience feel good about their personal soul-searching. It is definitely one of this reviewer's favorites!

"Kiss Beyond the Catcher" has a great beat. It is just a fun song that idealizes a woman that the speaker in the song is attracted to, but the love is (alas!) unrequited.

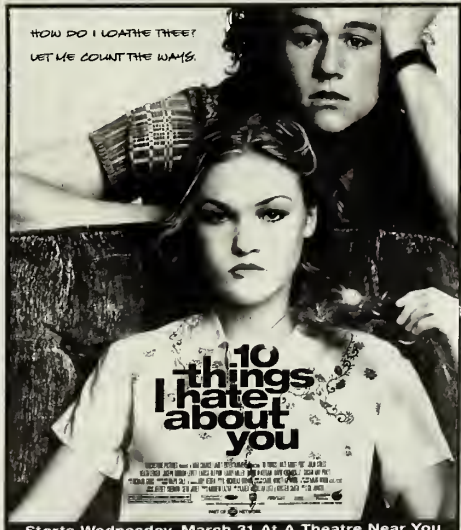
"And She Cries" is a track from the female point of view. The woman sung about is no longer with the man that she wants and she finds it hard to go on. The song starts off with some good electric guitar.

The title track of this album, as stated in the synopsis of the tracks, is inspired by a photograph that Julian had of a person that he had known who was far away from him. He misses the person and is worried that he might never see her again. The song really has some nice string arrangements included in it.

"Faithful" is a song that has many very poetic qualities. The song also evokes a lot of imagery, but ends somewhat abruptly.

"Way to your Heart" begins with a ticking clock and the sound of someone lighting a cigarette. The song then goes on with some rather haunting strings. It has a quality that makes the song seem as though it almost belongs in a musical, from the way it begins as if someone is making it up in their apartment, to the way it fades out with the ticking clock.

Overall the album *Photograph Smile* is simply smashing. It is well worth a listen, and I repeated listens. Julian definitely is a great musician in his own right.



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Features/Opinion

Stobart unlocks the chains he loves so much

by Becca Sailor

As one walks to class at JJC, it's difficult not to notice the many copies of the *Wordstar*, often placed alongside the *Blazer*. But unless you've taken a class by the man who created it, you may not know how the magazine got its start. The person responsible is John Stobart, and the *Wordstar* is only one of the many legacies he leaves JJC when he retires this spring.

Stobart began teaching English here in 1961 after graduating from SIU. At that time, JJC was part community college, part high school. He chose JJC originally because the pay was so high: a whopping \$6,000 a year. "I had two kids, so it made a lot of difference," he says.

"I certainly will miss his genius as a person, and as chair I will miss his loyalty to the department."
-Patrick Asher

When Stobart began at JJC, things were different for instructors. "Teachers had to work from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and you couldn't leave unless you had to go to court or the hospital," Stobart jokes. In addition to instructing, teachers were responsible for monitoring study halls, half duty, and counseling students at registration. Tuition at JJC was free at that time.

In his 38 years of teaching, Stobart

has been involved in almost every English class offered at JJC.

"I wanted to convey the excitement of books," says Stobart. He has taught American, British and World Literature, a wide spectrum of writing and rhetoric courses, as well as speech and tennis. He created the Contemporary Literature and Creative Writing classes from scratch.

"He is one of the outstanding faculty members in having the department adhere to rigorous academic standards in the teaching of writing," says Patrick Asher, English department chairperson.

Bill Yarrow, fellow English instructor and Stobart's office mate, calls him "a model of a dedicated teacher." And teaching isn't all this man can do!

It is hard to figure out where to start with Stobart's extracurricular involvement at JJC. He helped to start Brown Bag Lectures and sponsored the Cultural Cinema Club for five years. He ran a weekly underground newspaper called the *Subterranean Sideshow* and coached both forensics and tennis, winning state championships in both. He helped organize a group called the "Reader Meeters" that lasted for 20 years. If that isn't enough...he tried to start a debate team.

In addition to these activities, Asher says Stobart "has been very active in the annual poetry reading that the English department sponsors under Mr. Yarrow. He has read countless poems of his."

Yarrow himself says Stobart is "an ardent supporter of poetry reading" and "great in front of an audience."

Stobart still publishes what Pat



Asher believes is "one of the best student publications in literature. He has added a great deal with his work on the *Wordstar*," says Asher. "He has gone through over 100 editions. Without exaggeration, he has spent countless hours putting this literary magazine together. It is a remarkable feat."

Even the paper you are reading now has been touched by Stobart's efforts. Some years ago, the *Blazer* went unpublished due to poor organization.

"I thought it was terrible to see this happening. Nobody wanted to do it," says Stobart.

So he decided to do it. For three years.

"John deserves a lot of credit for bringing the *Blazer* back to life several years ago. The paper was lying dormant when John took over," praises Bob Marcini, the *Blazer*'s column advisor. "His work with the *Wordstar* has also given literally hundreds of students an opportunity to display their creative talents."

In his "free" time, Stobart has served as president on JJC's American Federation of Teachers and negotiated the first union teacher's contract in 1970. He's been elected president four times and served on the Executive Board.

"As a teacher and a leader of the faculty, he has given of himself very unselfishly and few faculty members have shown such devotion and dedication," praises Asher. "Certainly will miss his genius as a person, and as chair I will miss his loyalty to the department."

Yarrow comments that Stobart is "someone of fierce loyalty to his institution...I've never met a teacher more dedicated to his job, his craft, and his school." Heads, "Even at the end of his career, he is no less involved than he probably was in the beginning."

What will Superscholar Stobart do now that he'll have more time on his hands? For starters, he's thought of turning the tables and becoming a student at JJC, perhaps taking classes in music, philosophy or horticulture.

"I've thought of coming back as a full-time student and trying out for the tennis team. I'd be the odd player on the team, ever!" Stobart half-jokes. He also says he would like to do volunteer work involving literacy, Meals on Wheels or at museums.

Additionally, Stobart ponders, "I might get into writing seriously. I've always toyed with it in the past."

"Wars"

Continued from page 4

how the food these reviewers have tasted.

Their menu has a wide selection and is friendly to vegetarians as well as omnivores. They have salads, burgers, melts, pitas, sandwiches and focaccia sandwiches in addition to their "Dinner Classics."

You can get anything on the menu without meat, such as the Honey Mustard Pita, Fajita Pita, and Honey Dijon Chicken Focaccia. They have a Veggie Melt, Gardenburger, Deluxe Grilled Cheese and Veggie Sir-Fry Pita as options right on the menu. The cheese sticks and Cauliflower Au Gratin Soup will mak your taste buds dance, preparing you for the rest of a tantalizing meal.

It is impossible to express in the limited space of a single article how good each item is. The Gardenburger is the best you can find anywhere. The focaccia sandwiches are served on focaccia, a seasoned Italian bread. The Honey Dijon Chicken (without the chicken of course) comes highly recommended, along with the Veggie Sir-Fry Pita.

Baker's Square encourages you to save room for pie, but it is very difficult with the amount of tantalizing food they give you. It is almost against the law to leave there without at least getting a half of a slice of pie.

The service can be slow at times; they are not open 24 hours, and too much Baker's Square may burn a whole in your pocket book, but there is no other place to go if you want the best food in town.

Of course, we could not do an article on local hangouts without mentioning Family Table and Sara's Place. Both are open 24 hours and Joliet young adults tend to gather in

Most obviously, Stobart says, "I love to read. I could probably do nothing but READ in retirement. I have stacks of books around my house just waiting to be read."

John Stobart says he'll miss the "friendly atmosphere" and his friends, especially in the English department. Keeping an ever-positive attitude, Stobart thinks he will even miss grading papers, meeting deadlines, giving lectures, and attending meetings...activities that other professors would enjoy escaping.

"I've never met a teacher more dedicated to his job, his craft and his school."
-Bill Yarrow

"I will miss the habit," Stobart says. Drawing a quote from the literature he loves so much, he adds "My very chains and I were friends."

Stobart's positive influence and contribution to JJC will be remembered and respected long after he retires. His additions to the literary and academic culture of JJC have made it a much richer place. With a teacher who has given JJC this much, it's too bad we can't keep him in the shackles that he'll miss.

groups at both places on a regular basis.

Family Table is our personal hangout. You never have to worry about what you wear because you'll fit in no matter what you look like. Also, it's good to go to the Table if you're feeling kind of down because you'll always be able to find someone who looks far worse off than you.

A night at the Table always proves to be exciting. Anything goes: you don't have to worry about how you act, what you say, or how loud you talk because usually there will be someone being even more obnoxious.

As far as the food goes, we recommend the breakfast food and the appetizers, especially Saganaka. We can't say much about the rest of the menu since it is not very vegetarian friendly, but most of the time it looks pretty questionable.

A major plus for the Table is that it has the lowest prices.

Last but certainly not least, there is Sara's Place. The service was superior and the menu had a great variety of foods: Chinese, Mexican, Italian, Steak and Fish. The menu is also more vegetarian-friendly than the Table.

The baked mostacholi leaves something to be desired, but the enchiladas and combo platter are recommended. Saganaka is a choice appetizer at Sara's Place as well.

For you coffee drinkers out there, Sara's Place has the "Endless Cup of Coffee." They give you an endless supply of pots of coffee which they place on your table.

No waiting for refills at Sara's Place!

The food is slightly pricier than the Table, but the food has a better quality and a better variety. Variety is truly the spice of life, so live it up and try someplace new!

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Cubs will Kerry on; White Sox follow the youth Manuel

Just Talkin' Sports By Mark Malone

There is something magical in the air... can you sense it Chicago fans? The temperatures rising, the spirits lifting and the wisdom of that third-degree sunburn you will freeze from sitting out in the bleachers.

That's right, the 1999 major-league baseball season is upon us. It's only a matter of time before you're listening to the crack of the bat, the pop of the glove and that beamed-up loud-mouth sitting behind you that's obviously led one to many Polish sausages.

This season almost any Chicago fan has a feeling of anticipation and uncertainty about if the Cubbies can finally end the curse of the goat. Or maybe you're rooting for the kiddies on the South-Side, who are beginning to show the youth and potential to seek in the fountain of promise for years to come.

I can sympathize with anyone who would just like to see a Chicago team win the World Series. But there is one thing that is abundantly clear for both teams: It's going to be one hell of a ride in 1999.

Last year, the White Sox could have gone completely unnoticed if not for Albert Belle's 49 home-run eruption that set a new team record. In fact, most baseball fans would not have guessed that the Sox had an eye-popping 45-31 mark during the last half of the '98 season—second best in the league.

However, Chicago was clearly a Cubs town in 1998, and did not expect things to change this year. The Cubs electrified the nation with Sammy Sosa's 66 homers and Kerry Wood's crafty curveball. But, finally, the Atlanta Braves then swept them during the playoffs in typical Chicago baseball style.

During the off-season, the Cubs remained disappointingly quiet and acquired an aging veteran catcher in Benito Santiago along with a decent reliever in Scott Sanders. Also, they swapped outfielder Brant Brown to the Pittsburgh Pirates for starting pitcher Jon Lieber.

The acquisition of Lieber should prove to be a steal. Behind an anemic Pirates offensive support, the 28-year-old Lieber possessed an adequate 4.11 earned-run-average.

But, more notably was his mark of 138 strikeouts in 171 innings pitched last season. Even though Lieber is obviously not an overpowering pitcher, it would have placed him third on the current Cubs pitching staff in strikeouts.

Last year, Wood led the team with 233 strikeouts in 156 innings, while Steve Trachsel was a distant second with 149 strikeouts in 403 innings. The only question for Lieber is "how will he pitch in Wrigley?"

Then, the bubble burst in spring training. The announcement of a devastating injury to Kerry Wood sent any prediction of a guaranteed National League Central crown directly into the trash. The National League rookie-of-the-year will sit out the entire season, and possibly part of the 2000 season, due to significant damage to the ulnar collateral ligament in his right throwing elbow.

This means that Cubs general manager Ed Lynch will have to swallow his pride and work up a trade for an ace pitcher if he plans to bring a championship to Chicago in 1999.

Even with the return of Jeremi Gonzalez from a injury similar to Wood's, the Cubs are left without a power pitcher. The Cubs pitching staff will be decent in 1999, but they will need a pitcher who can guarantee a victory every three pitches.

Currently only five pitchers on the market, Curt Schilling of the Philadelphia Phillies, Brad Radke of the Minnesota Twins and Kevin Appier of the Kansas City Royals, will have the ability and intensity to keep the Cubs playing into October.

However, behind the leadership and offense of Sosa, Henry Rodriguez and Mark Grace, the Cubs will make their bid for the NL Central. As long as the team stays healthy, the Cubs will win 90 games and secure the division just ahead of the injured and depleted Houston Astros and shaky pitching of the St. Louis Cardinals.

The Cubs have the ability to stir some excitement in the Chicago-area, but do not be surprised if you hear the "Mon-in-Black" make some thunder in the windy city.

Now, scratch out any hopes of the World Series or even the playoffs this year, but the loss of Belle and third baseman Robin Ventura will not diminish the potential of this team.

With two players breaking into the Rookie-of-the-Year voting last year, Mike Caruso and Magglio Ordonez, the White Sox will be relying on their youth once again. But, even though the so-called "white flag trade" in 1997 had me skeptical of the Sox management, I am now approving of the results.

Lead by second-year coach Jerry Manuel, the Sox will entertain where Comiskey Park crowd to a second place American League Central finish. A prediction of the Sox winning 80-to-85 games has plenty

of merit.

Although Frank Thomas is coming off his worst season offensively with a .265 batting average, 29 home runs and 109 RBI, he has trimmed his weight during the off-season and will rebound in 1999. Also, according to a Fox Sports Chicago telecast, Thomas has found the pitch in his trademark swing that plagued him in 1998.

Second baseman Ray Durham finally proved his talent after his hard work and help from Manuel that led to his first-start appearance in '98. The White Sox honored his accomplishments during the off-season, with a 4-year \$20 million contract that should influence his determination even more.

Also in the off-season, the Sox plucked Paul Konerko from the Cincinnati Reds. Konerko, a former minor-league player-of-the-year, was thrown into the fire in 1998 by the Los Angeles Dodgers and did not live up to expectations during the 49 games that he played. He then was traded to Cincinnati mid-way through the season, where he was never really given a chance to prove his hitting

abilities.

Expect to see Konerko cruise his way through the Sox, where the pressure will be absent and the opportunity for his success will be granted.

The rest of the White Sox lineup has nothing but optimism for the future. In 1999, Ordonez will boost his statistics to a .300 average with at least 20 home runs and 80-90 RBI. Meanwhile, Caruso can easily match his .306 average from 1998 supported by his speed, and he eventually will find the cure for his defensive lapses.

Also, starting pitchers Mike Strotz, Jim Parque, John Snyder, ace reliever Keith Foulke, and fireballer Bobby Howry has the Sox pitching staff with an uplifting appearance.

As long as the Sox keep Jamie Navarro out of the rotation and preferably on another team, I am pleased with the potential of the arms on this team.

But, the defense behind them is scary. With such a young pitching staff, the White Sox need to limit the mental mistakes in the field. Caruso's 35 errors in 1998, along with any

other gift items, will not help this team grow. If the errors emerge, it could spell disaster for the White Sox in 1999.

Replacing Belle and Ventura's numbers will be a major task for the team, considering both contributed the bulk of the offense last year. But keep an ear open for names like Carlos Lee, Jeff Abbott, Greg Norton and Joe Crede this year and the next.

The White Sox have so many rising stars and future prospects, and expecting they will improve their defense, I will fearlessly predict a strong playoff showing by at least 2001 or 2002. By that time the AL Central will be out of the control of the Cleveland Indians, and a duel for the top-spot between the White Sox and the Detroit Tigers should be well underway.

In the mean time, have some fun watching this team grow, if not I won't hesitate to say "I told you so."

Both the Cubs and the White Sox have six inter-league games slated for this season, three at Wrigley Field and three at Comiskey Park. My pick, who, cares lets play some baseball.

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Spring '99

Lady Wolves fight through injuries and rebound slow start

by Mark Malone

The first game of the season for any team should be uplifting to build momentum for the remainder of the season. Unfortunately that wasn't the case for the Lady Wolves. They would rather have it back in Texas.

During the first game of the season in Galveston Island, Texas, second baseman Lacey Susan suffered an injury and would not play for the rest of the trip. Just an inning later, freshman Georgiana Szymczak was also taken out of the game. Due to an injury.

Early injuries and tough opponents would set the tone for the remainder of the spring trip. The devastating aftershock resulted in JJC dropping five straight, all of which were to quality competition.

"We played all division one teams and one team had a record of 23-4," said JJC Coach Jack Smith. "But, the injuries were the reason for the slow

start... they hurt us."

However, the Lady Wolves appear to be rebounding, posting a 7-8 record as of March 21. One reason is because of star pitcher and second baseman Dawn Glasscock.

"Down is doing exactly what she did last year," said Smith. "She is very strong, very determined and she works hard."

Smith openly credits Glasscock as one of the key strengths this year for the team.

"We have the best pitcher around," said Smith. "...we need her pitching this year."

In 1998, Glasscock was given NJCAA Division III All-American honors and named to the all-Region IV Division first team. After leading all Division III pitchers with 224 strikeouts, she continued to prove her dominance with a 1.91 earned run averaged, along with a 19-9 overall record.

But, the Lady Wolves must secure the defensive and offensive support behind her in order to match last year's 28-22 record.

"I had some doubts early (about the offense), but we're beginning to look stronger than last year," said Smith. "On defense we've played

"We want to go to nationals this year. I think we have a real shot... we can only beat ourselves."

-Coach Jack Smith

well, but overall we need to improve on bunting and cut down on the mistakes in the field.

"We're beginning to do that. Every game I see improvement."

The Lady Wolves also have

expectations to surpass the second place Norita Central Community College Conference finish from 1998.

"We want to go to nationals this year," said Smith. "I think we have a real shot... we can only beat ourselves."

But, the Lady Wolves will have plenty of competition in the N4C.

Last year, JJC fell victim twice to the College of DuPage in the conference race and then in the Region IV Division III Tournament. College of DuPage would advance to win the NJCAA Division III World Series championship.

So far the chances seem to be improving for the Lady Wolves this year with the leadership of tri-captains Glasscock, Krystal Himes and Elizabeth Schultz.

In fact on March 20, Glasscock emerged in a doubleheader against Marquette University with 14

strikeouts and allowed only seven hits during the two games of work. Her record quickly improved to 5-5 with the victories, but she also showcased her offensive talents during the performance.

On the day, Glasscock had five hits and four RBIs that included a three-run blast which glided the Lady Wolves to the game one victory. JJC won the first game 10-2, and then polished off a doubleheader sweep with a 6-4 win in the second game.

However, Glasscock had plenty of support throughout the day. With an all-out offensive explosion, Lisa Gierich, Jill Yeager, Stephanie Sharp, Tracy Phillips and Traci Jasper stepped up with their bats during the first game.

Then in the second, Sharp, Phillips, Gierich and Himes all ignited to drive in runs throughout a six-run third inning to secure the victory.

King notches 400 wins, Wolves work out the kinks behind pitching

by Dan Gutierrez and Mark Malone

While most students spent their spring breaks on the beach or partying with their friends, the JJC baseball team was on their annual spring break trip to Nashville, Tennessee. During the trip the team compiled a record of 1 win and 8 losses.

This year's spring trip may not have produced many victories but it helped the team in other ways. The team showed where some of it's strengths and weaknesses are found. "Right now we are not hitting the ball well," Wolves coach Wayne King said. "...and our pitching and defense have been adequate."

There were some JJC players who had a very productive spring trip. Matt Egger hit for over 300, and sophomore transfer Kirk Bedinger also played very well.

This trip also helped the coaching staff observe where adjustments needed to be made in the line up.

"We are still trying to find an everyday line up," King said.

The team had it's ups and downs during the trip. There were

opportunities to win a few more games. But this year's team was competitive in every game.

Meanwhile, Coach King highlighted the journey chalked up his 400th victory. The victory bannered his successful 17th career as JJC.

His achievement occurred during a 8-6 comeback victory over Columbia State Community College. The Wolves fell behind 5-2 through five innings, but catcher Art Kyriacopoulos, graduate of Lincoln Way High School, sparked a six-run sixth inning with a two-run blast for the win.

The Herald News mentioned King after the accomplishment, "As for the 400 victories, it all goes back to good student athletes and good assistant coaches. I've had plenty of both."

Sophomore Kevin Skitch and freshman Andy Urbancic each staged two-run doubles during the game, while Egger had an RBI.

Also during the trip, pitching appeared to be a strong point for the team. In separate games, the Wolves

had strong outings by sophomores Skitch, Dean Christensen, Scott Lucht, freshmen Wes Anderson and Jack Prince.

Returning from a medical red-shirt last year, Skitch was MVP of the N4C conference in 1997 with a perfect 7-0 record. But his first start in 1999 resulted in a 3-2 defeat to Columbia State, even though he struck out five, gave up six hits and walked three through six innings.

Prince and Anderson, both Maanoka graduates, had impressive collegiate careers for the Wolves. Prince tossed six innings and gave up five hits despite a 3-1 defeat to Aquinas. Meanwhile Anderson allowed five hits in four-plus innings with five strikeouts, but the Wolves couldn't supply any offensive support. In the end, Anderson was handed his first loss of the season, a 2-1 decision also to Aquinas.

Overall it was a valid learning experience for the 19 freshman on the team. The experience should have helped prepare the team and those freshmen for the difficult North Central Community College

Conference (N4C) season.

Currently, the Wolves look to be back on the way path after a doubleheader sweep of McHenry County College on March 21. Bumping it's record to 6-11, the Wolves had sufficient help throughout the day.

Skitch (2-2) blazed for seven innings, while striking out four en route to a 9-1 victory in game one. Then freshman Nick Amato, graduate of Lemont, capped the sweep with five strikeouts in seven innings of work for his first victory of the season.

A seven-run fourth inning brightened the offensive spotlight in the first game. Freshman outfielder Ryan Koerner strided perfect in the game with three hits and two RBIs. Also, Urbancic collected two hits, while freshman John Rauen and sophomore Brendan Loughrey both staged doubles.

In the second game, Brian McDonald launched a three-run triple and Egger had a two-run double.

Looking ahead, JJC has two home games and three away games scheduled in the next week. The first

home game is slated against Kankakee Community College on Fri. March 26 at 2:30 p.m. The Wolves also face Kishwaukee College at 11 a.m. in a doubleheader duel on March 28. The first pitch is expected at 12:00 p.m.

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Wolves Baseball

Wed. March 24
Moraine Valley C.C.
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Fri. March 26
Kankakee C.C.
Home-2:30

Sat. March 27
Waukesha County Tech
Away-DH-12:00

Sun. March 28
Kishwaukee College
Home-DH-12:00

Thurs. April 1
Morton College
Away-3:00

Fri. April 2
Oakton C.C.
Away-DH-2:00

Sat. April 3
Harper College*
Home-DH-12:00

Tues. April 6
Illinois Valley C.C.*
Home-DH-2:00

Fri. April 9
Elgin C.C.
Home-DH-2:00

Lady Wolves Softball

Thurs. March 25
St. Francis JV
Home-3:00

* Conference Games

Sat. March 27
Moraine C.C.
Away-12:00

Tues. March 30
St. Francis
Away-5:00

Wed. March 31
Oakton College
Home-2:30

Sat. April 3
Harper College*
Away-12:00

Tues. April 6
Illinois Valley C.C.*
Away-3:00

Thurs. April 8
Waubesa C.C.
Away-3:00

Interested in Sports Writing? Contact Mark Malone or Carole Sharwarko at ext. 2313 to become apart of the Blazer sports staff!

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Blazer

Wednesday, April 14, 1999

Joliet Junior College Student Publication

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Should college athletes earn a paycheck?

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Two major student groups combine

by Stephanie Busbey

The Joliet Junior College Student Alliance voted recently 8-0-2 to combine with Cross Cultural Programming Board on a trial basis and will decide May 14 whether they will combine permanently.

The CCPB is being dissolved and combined with Student Alliance because of lack of student involvement with the program board. The board has consisted of only a few students, and for the most part members have also been Student Alliance members anyway, according to Patrice Fine, JJCSEA and CCPB advisor.

"The programs are suffering a little, and the students too. At a later time, with more interest, CCPB may break off again, but for now more people are needed," said Fine.

The alliance will be taking on all of the programming responsibilities, including Karaoke contests, Coffeehouse activities, Spring Fling week and Battle of the Bands. The additional work involved in organizing these events will make it necessary for Student Alliance to meet every week from 3-4-4-30 p.m. instead of every other week from 3-to-5 p.m., according to Fine.

By absorbing the responsibilities of CCPB, the Alliance will also be absorbing the programming budget. If the alliance decides to make the combination permanent, it's budget will go from \$3,000 to \$19,000, according to Fine.

"The money is there, but the people power is not," said Tracy Konrath, CCPB president. "There's just not enough student

involvement. This will take the load off of the few students on program board."

"The money is there, but the people power is not."

-Tracy Konrath, Alliance member

All of the programming used to be done solely by the Student Service Advisor. But in 1997 when Student Alliance was created, the plan was to have separate committees for such positions as Vice President of CCPB, Vice-President of Cultural Involvement, North Campus Representative, and City Center Campus Representative according to Konrath.

The CCPB committee was given the responsibility of providing the student body with "diverse programming of an educational, social, cultural and recreational nature." The CCPB was modeled after boards at four-year universities.

The board has been struggling ever since its creation for student involvement, according to Fine. One of the opinions she presented to the Student Alliance was that she could just do all of the programming herself, but the Alliance felt it was important to keep students involved in the programming process.

Students are encouraged to come to Student Alliance meetings to get involved in programming activities, ask questions or make suggestions. Meeting are Thursdays at 3 p.m. in the Cyber Cafe.

Fair offers mental and physical health help

by Becky Shinn

Are you looking for a way to feel better? Why not check out JJC's Holistic Wellness Fair! The Wellness Fair will be held on April 21 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in D-G concourse.

Holistic wellness, according to Judy Jaroch, a student worker in the Holistic Wellness office is "wellness in every sense; physically, emotionally, spiritually, socially."

Janet Adams, of the Holistic Wellness office stated that a Wellness Fair at JJC is needed "to make students aware of health issues that they may not have thought about before, or may not have thought important before."

The Wellness Fair is part of "World Wellness Week," which is April 19-23. Wellness Week also includes various seminars on April 20 and 21, and a "World Wellness Buffet" in the cafeteria on April 21.

Many things will be included in the Wellness Fair including: half price massages, blood pressure screenings, demonstrations, product information, agency information, medical resources, and alternative health care information.

Three seminars are to be held on Tuesday, April 20, in J-0006. The first is from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and is entitled "Stress Management Techniques from around the World" and will be presented by Dr. Corey Habben, Psy D. A second seminar will be held from noon-1 p.m. entitled "Chinese Medicine" presented by Dr. Steven Holcomb, Board Certified Acupuncturist and Herbalist. A third seminar will be held from 1:30-2:30 p.m. entitled "Ayurveda: Natural Holistic

Medicine from India" presented by Professor Patrick Turken, M.S., L.C.P.C.

Two seminars will be held on Wednesday, April 21, in the Student Center, D-1005. The first seminar is from 11 a.m.-noon entitled "Counseling the Culturally Different" presented

by Dr. Jagdish P. Dave, Ph.D., Psy. D.

This is a workshop that will provide an understanding of people from various cultural backgrounds as well as techniques and strategies for counseling them.

A second seminar will be

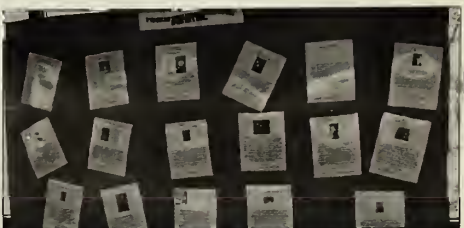
held from 1-2 p.m. entitled "Eastern/Western Approaches to Wellness" presented by Dr. Jagdish P. Dave, Ph. D., Psy. D.

So to find out more about wellness regarding yourself and others in the world, you might consider checking out the activities of World Wellness Week.

Alcohol Awareness Week



A speaker addresses the crowd about the dangers of alcohol addiction.



A display on the bridge shows pictures and stories of people who have died because of alcohol-related car accidents. photos by Shane Lindsay

News

News Briefs

Lecture Presentations

Dr. Robert Attn, finance chairman at Lewis University, will present "The economic Impact of Global Stratification: Focus on Asia and the Pacific Rim" on Thursday, April 15, from 12-1 p.m. at the Main Campus in J1006. Everyone is invited to bring a lunch and join in for a great lecture and lively discussion. For more information call Dr. Attn at campus extension 2270.

Ivan Dotzer of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service will present "Illinois Tallgrass Prairie Ecosystem and Native People" on Wednesday, April 14, at 7 p.m. in the Main Campus TV Studio in J1011. This free presentation is open to all and will include a slide presentation discussing the unique combination of climate, time and people that led to the formation of a prairie landscape over much of Illinois. This lecture is brought to you by the JJC Native American Club. For more information about the presentation or the club, contact Fred Harris in Media Services (J3016) or call 280-2566.

Workshops

The Institute of Economic Technology is offering the workshop "Grant Proposal Writing Techniques" on April 21 from

8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the City Center Campus. Dr. Lynn Miner of Marquette University will conduct an interactive workshop based on a seven-step model for grant writing. Cost is \$199, including breakfast, lunch and materials. Call 280-1503 to register.

The Institute of Economic Technology is offering a half-day

workshop called "Evaluation of Diversity Training Programs" on April 20 from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the City Center Campus. Participants will evaluate the effectiveness of their company's diversity training and assess their employees' benefit from the training. Cost is \$99 including breakfast, lunch and materials. Call 280-1503 for more information or to register.

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The Blazer is a student-run publication. Opinions expressed in the Blazer do not necessarily reflect the views of the faculty or administration

Registration

Registration for summer sessions begins Thurs. Apr. 15, from 1-8 p.m. There are three summer sessions: May 17-June 24, June 7-July 29 and June 28 to Aug. 5.

"Early Bird" registration begins Apr. 23 from 1-8 p.m. in J1009, the registration office. D mall and T-building conference lobby. This registration is by invitation only.

Open registration for the fall semester begins on Apr. 30 from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. All payment for fall registration is due June 25.

Graduation

Caps and gowns will be distributed on May 4 and 5 in the Main Campus cafeteria.

Fine Arts

The Fine Arts Department will present the play "Holy Ghosts" in the Fine Arts Theater on Apr. 22-24 at 8 p.m. and on Apr. 25 at 2:30.

Battle of the Bands

This all-ages show will take place on Sat. Apr. 30 in the Main Campus cafeteria.

Police Blotter

Medical Assists

3-11 Student tripped and fell while walking through an area in D-mall that was being remodel. Student refused treatment.

3-19 Student having a seizure in D-mall. Joliet Fire Department ambulance called. Student refused treatment.

4-6 Student slightly cut above left eye while in a Culinary Arts lab.

Traffic Accidents

3-18 Hit-and-run reported, T-lot.

3-24 Crash on entrance road—car vs. deer.

3-26 Two vehicle crash on Exit

and Houboff Road. No injuries.

4-1 Hit and run reported in lot 3.

Theft and Burglary

3-24 Retail theft—suspect apprehended for failure to pay after leaving the bookstore with art supplies in his possession.

3-24 Theft under \$300 reported by student. Her wallet was stolen from the women's locker room.

4-1 Burglary of motor vehicle in lot 4. Radar detector stolen and damage to dashboard reported.

Arrest

3-19 Suspect arrested for driving while license suspended.

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APC99

News

How much do you really know about Kosovo?

by Becca Sailor

On Tuesday, March 30, Dr. Tony Cuvallo presented "Kosovo in Crisis" at a brown bag lecture in the formal dining room. The seminar focused on the recent conflict in Kosovo between Serbs and Albanians.

A crowd of nearly 60 people attended the event.

Dr. Cuvallo has worked for JJC since 1991 as an instructor. He teaches

Western Civilization, Soviet History, and Latin American History.

The crisis in Kosovo is special to Dr. Cuvallo because he comes from Bosnia-Herzegovina and Eastern European history is his major field of study.

Department Chair of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Dr. Robert Sterling, introduced Cuvallo to the function. Before handing the microphone to Dr. Cuvallo, Sterling asked him to "give us Kosovo 101."

There were two parts to Dr. Cuvallo's presentation—a factual

history and the meaning of it in Kosovo today. He began by discussing geography and the people that live in the region.

He used transparencies to show where the Balkan region is located and why Kosovo is important. Cuvallo explained that whoever controls that territory controls the roads.

Next, Cuvallo showed the audience "who is who." The region in focus is a dizzying blend of Greeks, Bulgarians, Croats, Serbs, Hungarians, Romanians, Albanians, Turks, Macedonians, Persians, and others.

"What is important here to see is we have a mixture of languages and peoples, and also religions and cultures."

Just then, a member of the audience asked, "What religion are the Albanians?" Cuvallo explained that Kosovo is 70-75% Muslim, 10-12% Orthodox, and 6-8% Catholic.

"Speaking of religion," says Cuvallo, "many times this is pre-

sented as a religious war. In a sense, it is wrapped up in that somehow."

However, he adds, "Albanians did not lack identity, a national identity, regardless of religion. Albanianism is a more dominant feeling than being a Muslim."

Cuvallo went on to describe the tribal roots of Albanians and the advances they have made culturally and educationally in the last few decades. He discussed the growth and population of Albanians in Kosovo (Albanians comprise 1,608,000 of Kosovo's 1,995,000 citizens).

The high natural population of Albanians in Kosovo is part of their claim to the territory. Both Albanians and Serbs believe that the land belongs to them historically.

The speaker then outlined the sequence of events that have led to the current conflict. Cuvallo explained the famous Battle of Kosovo in 1389—historically insignificant, but a "myth in his-

tory" for the Serbs to this day. He focused on the political history of the last two centuries, including land expansions or retractions resulting from various wars, and the rises in nationalism pride that both Serbs and Albanians have experienced.

After the lecture, Cuvallo allowed questions from the audience.

Curious participants asked questions like "Will there be a World War III?" and "If Kosovo becomes an autonomous state, where will they get their economic power?"

Someone else wondered, "Is Slobodan Milosevic a communist?" Many people were anxious to know Cuvallo's opinion on present day occurrences.

As people left the presentation to go back to classes or jobs, one woman exclaimed, "It was excellent!"

When asked why she attended the lecture, student Kay Graff said, "So I could be better informed as to the situation, and

because what you read in the newspapers can be limited." Graff added, "I felt I had a more rounded perspective (after the presentation)."

If you missed this speaker, online resources are abundant. ABC News' "Making Sense of Kosovo" and *The Washington Post's* "Balkan's Special Report" are but two excellent examples. Major news websites offer maps, overviews, and histories of the region.

Recent articles, audio/visual clips, links, and a plethora of other related information is available for those of you who skipped "Kosovo 101" class. To hear more from Dr. Cuvallo, his books are available at the JJC library.

Cuvallo received his B.A. from St. Francis, his M.A. from John Carroll University, and his Ph.D. from Ohio State University. He has published two books about the region. The Croatian National Movement, 1966-1972 and The Historical Dictionary of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

LATINOS UNIDOS

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo

provided by Latinos Unidos

JJC Latinos Unidos Club would like to invite the college community and the community-at-large to join us in the celebration of Latino culture through the Cinco de Mayo (fifth of May) Festival. It is entitled "Exito: (the Spanish word for Success): Victory through Education".

This event commemorates the historic victory of the Mexican army over the French Invasion forces (twice larger and better technically prepared) of Napoleon III. This battle took place in the City of Puebla on May 5, 1862.

Opening night of this celebration will be May 3, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Dr. Jesus "Chuy" Negrete, Director of the Mexican Cultural Institute will present a lecture entitled "500 years of Chicano-Mexican History."

He is preceded by the "Fresh

Start" Folkloric Ballet of JJC Central High School.

A series of presentations and panel discussions focusing on issues of enrollment and retention of Latinos in higher education will be presented on May 4. JJC students and faculty are encouraged to participate in these events.

Closing day on May 5 will provide an opportunity for high school junior and senior to explore our college and its programs.

Latinos Unidos Club has as a mission: a) to foster understanding among diverse communities through multicultural education; b) to enhance opportunities for the enrollment and retention of Latino students in higher education.

This event is co-sponsored by the International Studies program of JJC.

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Opinion

Girl gets robbed, gets scared, gets over it

by Carole Sharwariko

I was in such a good mood. I had just gotten off of work and was going to take a shower and wait for my boyfriend to come over.

After I pulled up to my house and gathered my things, I walked to the front door. The screen door wasn't locked, which was odd because my dad always locked it. I walked through my screened-in porch to the main wooden door. It was then that I noticed the splinters on the floor. They were everywhere. Confused, I pushed the door open and saw that its entire side was cracked and broken. The handle almost falling off.

Strandly, I went inside. But I wasn't thinking correctly. How could I be thinking correctly when I saw speaker connector wire laying all over the floor?

Well, long story short, I called the police and they came, saw, and DIDN'T CONQUER. Someone had crowbarred their way into my house to steal our stereo equalizer, tape deck, CD player and a handful of my father's cigars. And all the police did was take some pictures. I was truly amazed by how little they did. I mean, I didn't expect them to go knock on every door in the neighborhood or not sleep until they found the person who

did it.

But, you know, you grow up watching television and seeing the cops "dusting for fingerprints" and "interrogating 'peeps'" and you figure that's what it's all about. These guys just kinda stood around and chewed gum. I wanted the C.H.I.P.S. crew to come riding up on their little motorcycles. Yeah, I'd have felt better if Eric Estrada was there.

One cop even felt it appropriate to mention that we were lucky they didn't steal more. Yeah, big consolation, pal. If a person gets into a car accident and loses their left arm, they're not thinking, "Well, at least I didn't lose my right one, too." If they do, then they are a much bigger person than I am.

I learned my less. I miss listening to my music really loudly and I had two CDs in the player as well. But, regardless of that, I don't feel very lucky.

I believe that I live in a good neighborhood. I mean, it's not up-scale-hoity-toity or anything, but people let their kids play outside and ride their bikes around town. Residents hang out with their neighbors and have barbecues the usual. So 'how could this happen to me?' I thought. Isn't that what everyone thinks when they are wronged in that way?



You can never really know how it feels to have your house burglarized until it actually happens to you. An extreme sense of being violated... no, that doesn't even properly express the feeling you get to not know who was in your house last, or what they did when they were there.

I couldn't help wondering if they'd laid in my bed, gone through my drawers, tried on my underwear. That sounds ridiculous, but you never know.

Who are these arrogant bastards that they think it's alright for them to crowbar open MY door, walk into MY house and take MY things—defile my only safe haven. To me, a home is the place you go when you feel like your day has slapped you in the face and threw you over the edge. You can always go home to be

alone and escape from all the absolute crap the world has to offer. And some complete stranger totally ruined that for me.

See, my dad works nights, so I often go home at night to an empty house. After this incident, I soon became very wary of getting out of my car and walking to my house.

I would look over my shoulder as I walked up and would rush inside, turn around and lock all the locks, then go and turn on all the lights. I also had trouble sleeping. The slightest noise would set me off. You should have seen me when the furnace turned on in the basement. I think I actually flew a foot or so in the air.

I've never really been a scared person. Scared that the miniforests are all being cut down, scared of the growing illiteracy problem, but never scared of society. I'll go walk around downtown, talk to strangers—I'm smart about it, but I have never been timid.

This experience has changed me in some ways. I think I am a little less naive, less trusting, which I hate. I like trusting people. I think it was Anne Frank at the end of her diary that said, "I still believe people are good at heart," or something like that. That's how I want to be.

However, I will not be intimidated.

You hear that, robbers? I'm not afraid of you! I know the robbers aren't reading this because I doubt, first of all, that they can read and second of all, that they would read. But they need to know that I can't live my life that way, worrying about the negative intentions of others. I have enough to worry about.

So you are all sitting there thinking, "Good for you, Carole!" or "Shit up, woman, what does this have to do with me?"

Well, I think that's a good way to be. Don't worry about what other people are plotting, what evil schemes they plan to concoct. If you are always wondering and living in fear because of what you're afraid might happen, you can never fully live.

Regardless of how prepared for bad things you think you are, situations unfold the way they unfold. All a person can do is make sure she is smart and good-at-heart and that she does the best she can.

Take care of your own life, and it will take care of you. I really believe that. Through this ordeal, and with the help of friends and family, I have realized that as long as I stay realistic about my situation, I'm gonna be okay.

Letters to the Editor

Peeved about Pepsi

Dear Editor,
I have to say my piece. I'm glad to see an intelligent response to this controversy other than, I like Coke better.
(Though I just had a Pepsi, and am very irritated, Pepsi products "ALWAYS" go flat on me before I can finish it, which costs "me" \$555 - I guess I'll have to drink water).

But what really concerns me is that a big company can buy a

monopoly of the market in that way. Is the purpose of supplying beverages on campus to make money or make beverages available to students and staff. Where is the competition to keep prices down. When's my 70¢ can of pop when I don't have a dollar?

Also, I miss cans. The bottles don't fit in my car's drink holder.

Catherine Trezek,
Publications Assistant

Letter Policy

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, or drop them off at the Blazer office at G-1009. The mailing address of the Blazer is:

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Also, you can send letters via e-mail at:
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Tornado preparedness month

JJC's Lt. Kramer offers tips on bracing for severe weather

April traditionally has been the start of tornado season in Northern Illinois. Around here tornadoes are a terrifying reality. We cannot prevent or predict when or where a tornado may strike. To understand a tornado a little better, you should know what a tornado or a "twister" really is.

Statistics provided by the National Weather Service shows June to be the month of highest activity.

Another myth about tornadoes is that they only occur in the "Plains States" and the "Midwest." Tornadoes can develop in any state at almost any time.

WATCH vs. WARNING:

These terms are NOT interchangeable.

A tornado watch is issued by the National Weather Service when conditions are right for a tornado to form. Stay alert by listening to a local radio station, and be ready to take shelter if a tornado develops.

A tornado warning means a tornado has been spotted in your immediate area. Listen for the tornado siren and seek shelter immediately. Everyone should know the warning signal sounds in his or her town. If a siren sounds, it means get inside and take cover.

Tornadoes are most likely to occur in late afternoon on hot, humid spring and early summer days. Just remember that tornadoes have occurred in every

month and at all times of the day or night.

When at home, put together an emergency "storm kit." The kit should include candles, matches, a transistor radio, flashlight, spare batteries and a small first aid kit. These items should be stored in water-proof container. Plan to have several gallons of drinking water on hand as well.

If your home has a basement and a tornado should occur, go downstairs and get under something sturdy. Remain there until the threat subsides.

If there is no basement, seek shelter in a small interior room in the middle of the house. Small closets and bathrooms are suggested. Stay away from outside walls and windows.

If you live in a mobile home, always remember a mobile home is NEVER safe during a violent windstorm such as tornado. People who live in mobile homes should be especially aware of the weather outside. If a tornado watch is announced, leave and go immediately to a safe structure.

Just as in any emergency, the key phrase is "be prepared." A tornado may never hit your town, but if it does, you will be ready for it and know what to do.

Tornadoes are the most destructive natural phenomenon occurring frequently in America.

A tornado is a funnel-shaped cloud that rotates and extends toward the ground from the lower portion of a thunderstorm cloud. Each year, around 1,000 tornadoes are reported in the United States. Tornadoes are the most destructive natural phenomenon occurring frequently in America. Many people think April is the peak time for tornadoes, but

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Features

Instructor and director, Stone influenced many

by Stephanie Busley

The Fine Arts Department will soon be losing the very woman who helped resuscitate and sustain it for 29 years. Dr. Rosaline Stone will be retiring at the end of this semester.

Although she is officially retiring, Stone says she will be around. She will still be directing "All My Sons" in fall '99, serving on the committee for the centennial celebration and helping out with the Illinois Theater Association Undergraduate Theater Festival for the next two years.

"I just need to find a place for my computer, my chair and my desk. I don't know where we're going to put me," she said.

She was hired at JJC in 1970 and has taught Speech 101, Theater 101, Theater 102, a directing class and developed Theater Production, a new course. She also has sponsored the JC Players since 1970 when she brought the student organization back to life. The JC Players provide the talent and physical work for the four plays and summer production put on every year.

"For a while, she was the theater department. She would put on three productions in addition to full time teaching and running the club. She even helped design the theater building," said Sue Malmberg, music professor.

"I don't think you can have a better example for what a community college instructor should be about than Roz Stone," said Dr. Zachary Bloomfield, speech and theater professor and co-sponsor of JC Players. "She's a good example for myself and other teachers who teach here."

Stone has served on most major committees at JJC and is the present Chair of the Institutional Senate, which discusses problems and issues and reviews policies before they go to the Board of Trustees.

"Roz is definitely an asset to this college. She's had a big effect on all parts of the school."

"She's been amazing in the amount of time she's spent to provide classroom activities for students,"

said Dr. Zachary Bloomfield.

Dr. Rosaline Stone:
said Lewis Miller, JC Players president.

Stone has always made it a priority to take students on trips. She has taken students to London, New York, Canada and Chicago, making all of the arrangements herself.

"She's been amazing in the amount of time she's spent to provide outside classroom activities for students," said Bloomfield.

"I was shocked when I first came here and some students had never even been to Chicago," said Stone. "I think it's very important to get international experience because that's the way it's going to be. This is an international society now."

She is currently establishing a grant to pay for transportation for students interested in participating in the Illinois Consortium for International Studies, a program that gives students the opportunity to study abroad. She will be donating \$1,000 a year starting with the \$9000 school year, which will pay for at least one student's transportation. The requirements for the grant are that the student must be a registered student at JJC, have a "C" average and write an essay of what his or her expectations are of the experience.

"I'm very happy to establish this grant," said Stone. "I hope the little amount of money I'm giving is going to help them defray the cost of transportation because it's the air fare that costs so much to get over there."

Stone says that she loves to travel. "My father was a sailor, so I think I got his 'I love to travel' gene," she explains. Stone worked for five years for the Department of Defense in Social Services, spending two years in Japan and three years in Europe. She says she's traveled several times in Europe, except Russia and Yugoslavia. She plans to do a lot of traveling once she's retired and write about her travels.

"Hopefully someone will be by my articles. It is hard to be a freelance writer though," said Stone. "Maybe I'll be a ski bum." She loves to ski, camp and hike. This summer she plans to go white water rafting in the Rocky Mountains.

No matter where she goes when she takes a trip, she always remembers to bring something back for everyone in the Fine Arts Department. She has been known to bring back exotic food from wherever she goes. She has been known to leave food outside of her office for the JC Players.

"Periodically she will put food on her table outside of her office because she thinks we're all starving college students," said Stacy Stoffo. "She keeps us well-fed," said Miller.

"One of the reasons we're so eager for Roz to stay involved is because she's made the theater department feel like a family and you don't want to lose a member of your family," explains Bloomfield.

The students she works with feel the same way. "There is so much I will miss about Roz. I really love her. She's such a car-

ing woman. She's always trying to take care of everyone," said Kristine "Ernie" Urnikis.

"She watches out for everybody. She actually cares about what's going on in your life. You can go talking about anything with her," said Courtney Steinbach.

Miller laughs, "She's like a mom at school. 'Clean up after yourself.' 'Do your homework.' 'Don't you owe me money?'"

According to Malmberg, Stone has influenced many students. Stone is happy when students come back and visit her and enjoys hearing of her student's successes.

"Sometimes you don't know what kind of impact you have on students until they come back and visit or you hear through the grapevine," Roz said. "I'm very happy that many of my students that I've worked with have

"... it's a very satisfying profession. It really is."

-Dr. Rosaline Stone

become teachers. They're not going to get rich, but it's a very satisfying profession. It really is," she added.

Some of the JJC alumni have kept in touch with each other, and Stone intends to invite them to come back for the centennial celebration. Stone has hopes that the JC Players scattered all over the United States are doing what they want to do and that they will come to the celebration.

"You can't help but be friends when you work in any other capacity with her," said

Nichola Blowers, Technical Supervisor. Theatre, who started out as one of Stone's students and is now her colleague and friend.

She has taken good care of her real family as well. "She basically raised her two daughters herself, which wasn't as common then," said Blowers. One of her daughters lives in San Diego as a Curator of Costumes and Textiles of the San Diego History Museum; and the other lives as a costume designer in New York City. Stone is disappointed that her daughter may not be able to attend her retirement ceremony because she is opening a musical that week. Stone is very proud of her daughters.

"They are sharp young ladies. They're very intelligent," she said.

"Roz is an amazing woman. She's very strong. She is a devoted parent, daughter and instructor," said Malmberg.

Stone sees herself as a perpetual student. "I love to study and research," she says. She has earned various degrees: Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Bachelor of Science from University of Chicago, Masters of Art in Theatre from University of Illinois, and a Doctorate of Theater History from the University of Denver. She says she has taken classes here and there "all over," including the University of Hawaii. She also has future plans to take photography or computer courses.

"Roz has the curiosity of a child. It amazes me at how she's always willing to learn about new things," said Urnikis, who worked with Stone for two years

Continued on next page

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Features

Stone continued

from previous page

on numerous shows and as the IC Players secretary.

Once she started on her doctorate degree, Stone says that she realized that she didn't know anything.

"The world is an interesting place. There's always more to learn. I have the curiosity enough to find out and see it there and let the world go by us," says Stone. "My view of retirement is to go off in another direction that you're interested in. I'm going to explore the things and places I haven't had a chance to."

"I hope when I'm her age, I will have the thirst of knowledge that she does," said Blowers.

Originally, Stone did not set out to be a teacher. She started out wanting to be a doctor, but she says, "I tell everyone that I realized I wouldn't grow up tall enough to reach the operating table so I turned to radio and television."

She said that there really wasn't a place for minorities in radio or television at that time. She was always interested in movies, but there was no serious study of them at the time. "I guess I was born at the wrong time," said Stone.

She got hooked on movies at a young age when she would go every time a new one would come out, back when they used to only cost twenty-five cents. Her interest then graduated into theater after seeing a live performance of Student Prince.

Stone recognizes that today's theater is more loose with language and more open about sex and relationships, among other things. She has heard complaints of the "adult content" of some of the shows from some of the older members of the audience, but she explains that that is the way theater is today.

"It's our job as an educational theater to expose our students and our audience to different

kinds of plays with different philosophies," said Stone.

She has also heard people say that they don't like to go to shows because they are too depressing. "Everyone liked musicals because they always ended happily. Well, let's face it—some of the modern musicals don't end happily. We're an educational theatre and we can't always have happy happy happy shows because society isn't happy happy happy," Stone explains.

Stone pays attention to the technical details in her shows, with complicated sets and technically heavy shows, according to Miller.

"Roz designs her own sets, and tries to do all her own sound," said Zachary Bong, IC Player. She has been said to really know what she wants when she is in charge of a show, although she has been known to change her mind a lot.

"If she doesn't like something you painted and brought

"The world is an interesting place, there's always more to learn."

-Rosaline Stone

out on stage, she'll make you come back and repaint it a different color. You can end up painting something like three or four times," said Stienbach.

She has even been known to do her own choreography. "During Picasso at the Lavinia Agile, I was playing Elvis, and Roz directed the show. She wanted me to kind of swing my hips like Elvis does and I just was not getting it. So this four foot tall Philippino woman started dancing with her hip curled and singing Elvis tunes. I'll never forget that," said Jasca Foreman, IC Player.

The actors and actresses who

have worked with Stone definitely won't forget her famous words: "Once you get the books out of your hands..."

Undisputed: "Roz has always believed that once the script is out of your hands, you become the character."

Her exoskeleton must pay off: "Her shows always turn out excellent," said Foreman.

Stone says that teaching takes up about 16 hours of each day, thinking about it at home, preparing to teach and teaching. "It's tiring because you're not only transferring information, but there's a transfer of energy," she says.

People see Stone as anything but tired out. "She's a bundle of energy," says Blowers.

"You wonder where all of that energy comes from in such a little person," said Bloomfield.

The Fine Arts Department is having a dinner in Stone's honor on May 8. It is open to everyone—students, staff, faculty, and alumni. The cost is \$30 and reserva-

tions and questions should be referred to the liaison for the dinner, Blowers, extension 2200. According to Blowers, people all over the United States will be coming to this dinner.

"We're not planning a roast, but a salute to her life. We have a couple of nice surprises for her. She's a good sport, so she'll like it," said Mainberg.

Once the new person comes in, Stone says she is going to try to not be too visible. So, she will be using her energy in other manners. When she's not going on an adventure, she says she is going to "get a bike and toddle around town" and learn to cook again, since she usually always eats at the school. She also wants to learn how to use her laptop computer.

Although Stone can't be replaced, the search is on right now to fill the position and applications are coming in from all over the United States. Whoever the new person is will have some pretty big shoes to fill.

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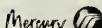
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Sports

Wolves' offense shifts into high gear for season stretch

By Mark Malone

It was only a matter of time before the Wolves offense awoke from their early season slumber. But when the aluminum sparked, the JJC baseball team simply exploded.

As the bats continued to rattle, JJC rebounded from a sluggish 12-15 beginning season mark to win their last 11-of-13 games. Currently, the Wolves possess a 23-17 overall record, and have captured a 5-1 mark in the N4C.

But, nearly one month ago, the team's offense was in hibernation. Even as the Wolves spotted a 276 team batting average a little over 20 games into the season, they soon erupted to capture a 288 mark by their 36th game.

Since then, JJC has pounded out 20 runs twice, including a 21-8 romp of Moraine Valley and then a 20-3 thrashing of Elgin Community College. After the final hit dropped, the Wolves racked 21 hits against Moraine Valley, and slugged 17 hits against Elgin.

Through 36 games, Andy Urbancik leads the team offen-

sively with a .425 average that includes three home runs, 26 RBI, 31 runs scored, 10 doubles and, not to mention, 20 base-on-balls. In his 80 at-bats he posts the highest slugging percentage on the team at .661, and has a .569 on-base percentage.

Also, Brian McDonald has a .360 average with two home runs, 15 RBI and 19 runs scored after 89 at-bats. But, JJC has ten players hitting above .270 and five of those own an average higher than .340. Those five players include Urbancik, McDonald, Eric Blascer (.342), Art Kynacopoulos (.343) and Kevin Skutch (.360).

With the offense churning, the pitching has some heavy pressure elevated from their shoulders. Sophomore Scott Lucht has notched a 4-2 record with a 2.79 ERA through 29 innings pitched. Also, Lucht leads the Wolves with four saves, and has limited the opposition to a .248 batting average.

Meanwhile, freshman Nick Amato and Skutch are stifling their opponents, because both have combined for a total of 61



Matt Eggett slugs one of 17 hits during a 20-3 victory over Elgin.

photo by Shane Lindsay

strikeouts. Skutch, the N4C conference MVP in 1997, leads the team with 31 punch outs and he has compiled a 3-3 mark with a 2.95 ERA after 39.2 innings pitched. Amato has a 2-0 record through 21 innings with a 4.64 ERA. He has only allowed nine walks. The Wolves staff has a combined 4.96 earned-run-aver-

age. As the Wolves head into the season stretch, they have only three regular season home games remaining.

Two of those games are scheduled against Waukegan Community College in a twin bill on Thursday, April 15. The first

pitch is at 2:30. The other game will be on April 26 against South Suburban College.

However, they have two conference teams, Rock Valley and Triun, remaining before the Division III Regionals that begin on April 29 at JJC. The Wolves will play both teams on the road in doubleheaders.

Soccer tourney to help kids

JJC Soccer Club and Greater Joliet Area YMCA are sponsoring a charity soccer tournament May 15 at the Galovitch YMCA Sports Field. The six-team tournament, which will include JJC and five collegiate men's teams will benefit the JJC Soccer Club as well as the YMCA World Service to help children in the United States and Bangladesh.

JJC, through Athletic Director Wayne King, has donated \$200 worth of soccer balls. JJC Vice President Al Hardersen has also arranged for free referees that day.

"We are excited about this tournament because it's a first, and we want to make it an annual event if it's successful," said JJC Soccer Club Coach Cristobal Trillo. "Mark (Demchak, of the YMCA) and I really appreciate the support we received from Dr. Hardersen and Wayne King."

The tournament will begin at 10 a.m. and end about 4 p.m. Trophies will be awarded to the top teams. The public is invited to attend.

HELP WANTED:

The Blazer is looking for a sports editor for the 1999-2000 school year. This paid position requires an interest in sports and in sports writing. If interested please contact Bob Marcink at 280-2607, or Ext. 2607.

Just Talkin' Sports

College Sports is a job in itself

by Dan Gutierrez

Imagine that you are part of a work force. Every morning you and your co-workers get up early and go to work out in the hot August sun. You work together each day for about four months. Killing yourself every day in order to get the job done.

If this were you, it would be reasonable to expect an honest day's pay for an honest day's work. But what if I were to tell you that you are a college athlete at a major university. What could change your mind?

Major colleges and universities make a lot of money off of the athletes. Television rights, apparel rights and ticket sales are just a

few of the ways that colleges and universities make money off of the athletes.

Division I athletics are very lucrative for the universities. A team's success will directly affect the amount of money which a school will make. Many millions of dollars can be made for schools and conferences if a team makes it to a bowl game for football or the NCAA Final Four in basketball.

Why is it that these athletes who have to work twice as hard as most other students do not see any of this money? These athletes have to balance class, study time, practice and games. It seems a bit outrageous that ath-

letes can work hard, produce millions of dollars and yet still not reap the fruits of their labor. Don't take what I'm saying the wrong way. I'm not saying that we should see a day when college athletes are making millions a year.

That is not at all what I am trying to get across. All that I am saying is that athletes deserve at least a small portion of the money which they make for their respective schools.

Hopefully some day athletes will be able to receive some of this money. Hopefully someday a stop will be made of this gross exploitation of college athletes by the universities.

Upcoming Games

Wolves Baseball

April 15
Waukegan C.C.
Home-DH-2:30

April 16
South Suburban College
Away-3:00

April 17
*Rock Valley
Away-DH-12:00

Lady Wolves Softball

April 15
Kankakee C.C.
Away-3:00

April 17
*Rock Valley
Home-12:00

April 18
McHenry Community College
Home-12:00

Wolves Tennis

April 16
College of Lake County
Away-2:30

April 20
Illinois Valley
Away-2:30

April 21
McHenry Community College
Away-3:00

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Blazer

Wednesday, May 5, 1999

Joliet Junior College Student Publication

Volume 71 Issue 10

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College bowl team state champions

by Sky Freeman

The JJC College Bowl Team won the state finals on April 16 at Richland Community College. Joliet was represented by Nick Rakes, team captain, Michael Fletcher, Jeff O'Malley, Karen Olvera and A.J. Orosco. All five players were chosen for scoring the most points on toss-up questions and Rakes had the highest score of 430 points.

Joliet Junior College (record: 5-0/ total points: 835) came in first place, Waboonsee Community College (record: 4-1/ total points: 835) came in second, Illinois Central Community College (record: 3-2/ total points: 715) came in third, Rend Lake Community College (2-3/ total points: 715) came in fourth, Kaskaskia Community College (record: 1-4/ total points: 650) came in fifth, and McHenry (record: 0-5/ total points: 310) came in sixth.

"Winning the state championship was one of my biggest triumphs," Rakes said.

College Bowl is a game of questions and answers between two teams, each with a minimum of three players and an on-site four-point can be earned with correct answers to the moderator's questions.

There are two types of questions: toss-ups, worth 10 points each, and bonuses, worth a stated number of points between 20 to 30 each. Every tournament is run by a tournament director, who makes official decisions concerning rules and management. Matches are played in halves, which are started



Winners of the 1999 College Bowl State Finals, (from left to right) Michael Fletcher, Nick Rakes, Jeff O'Malley, Karen Olvera and A.J. Orosco, stand proud.

and ended by a whistle.

The team with the most points before the final whistle sounds is the winner. Usually each half is seven minutes, however, broadcast games make exceptions. The moderator begins each half by reading the first toss-up and the clock starts. A scorekeeper verifies the score at the end and declares it official. If there is a tie, it is broken by a sudden-death play off of toss-up questions. The first correct answer earns 10 points and wins, but an incorrect answer loses the game. This continues until a score changes. The official answers are provided by the contracted question and the Answer Company.

JJC has competed in other col-

lege bowls previous to the state finals. Prairie State Community College held the College Bowl Fall Tournament, South Suburban Region on December 11, 1998. Rakes played team captain with Fletcher, Elizabeth Palmer, and Chris Duffy as team members. They played against other teams from other community colleges in Illinois such as Prairie State and Moraine Valley. JJC won first place and Moraine Valley came in second.

The University of Illinois in Chicago held the College Bowl Regional Tournament on February 19-20. Community colleges and universities from around the United States competed. JJC was

represented by the same team that played in the state finals.

The scores were Joliet Junior College against Wisconsin, Platteville, 230 to 65, 115 to 140 against Northern University, 95 to 285 against University of Chicago, 115 to 30 against Wisconsin Lutheran, 115 to 310 against Marquette University and 280 to 15 against Beloit College. JJC had a total score of 910 points.

On March 22, the College Bowl Spring Tournament was held at Moraine Valley Community College. Team members Rakes, Fletcher, O'Malley and Jeremy Dew played for JJC and won first place. Moraine Valley Community College came in second place.

May and Dystrup win seats by large margin

by Becky Shinn

The polls have closed the ballots have been counted and the results of the April 13, 1999, election for the two contested seats on the Joliet Junior College Board of Trustees has been decided. The winners are Richard "Dick" Dystrup



Jeff May

Dystrup of Lockport and Jeff May of Channahon.

Dystrup retired in January from 33 years of teaching economics, American government and U.S. history at Lockport High School, the town in which he was once mayor. Dystrup holds a Masters

degree.

"I have a true sense of community and a wealth of background and perspectives," he says.

Dystrup was a Fire and Ambulance trustee for eight years, a member of the Lockport School Board for 13 years and this is year 27 for him in elected office. He was a coach for 30 years and has been involved in boys' and girls' softball.

He was the president of the Lyons Club and plans to be again in the future. Dystrup is also a chairperson on the I-355 Extension Committee.

"I hope to help take JJC to a new level in the next millennium," Dystrup states. Dystrup hopes to become a "stabilizing force" on the board and attempt to be as "unconditional as possible" when dealing with issues during his term of office.

"My personal agenda doesn't mean much," said Dystrup. "It is hard to say what we will have to deal with because the term doesn't start until November."

One thing that Dystrup says is of importance to him as a board

member is "policy development." He also says, "I want to look at the possibility of JJC becoming a member of the Junior College Association in the state of Illinois."

Another issue of importance to Dystrup regarding the future of JJC is the frequency of board meetings. He points out that JJC will celebrate its 100 year anniversary in the year 2000 and "that isn't just something that you can plan for

that the students' voices are heard loud and clear," says Dystrup. "We hope to meet with students-the whole board and especially Jeff and I regarding such issues as 'quality of facilities, accessibility to the handicapped and the curriculum.'"

May is currently the Executive Director of the Educational Service Network of Will and Grundy Counties. May is working on his doctorate at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, so he says, "I'm a student, too."

May says this is his first time elected to an office, but that he has worked in educational policy for the past twenty years. He says proudly, "I have been able to write education legislation that has been passed into law in the state of Illinois."

May hopes that JJC students will be able to bring marketable skills into the community. He is very concerned that the courses students take at the college will "translate into good paying jobs."

He also seems eager to get

"I have a true sense of community and a wealth of perspectives."

-Dick Dystrup

overnight."

Dystrup stresses that he knows there are two types of students at JJC: traditional students and these continuing their education later in life. "I realize that the two types of students have different needs. We (he and May) are very concerned

See "Margin" on next page

News

Blazer staff is proud to do it



The Blazer staff (in front, left to right) Stephanie Busbey, Claudia Hawrylewicz, Carole Sharwarko, Dorothée Lundberg, Crystal Duran and adviser Bob Marcink (behind, left to right) Shane Lindsay, Sky Freeman, Becky Shinn, Lorraine Guerrero, Dan Gutierrez and Brian Louie. Not pictured is Mark Malone.

The members of the Blazer staff are very pleased with themselves. They attended the Illinois Community College Journalism Association's annual conference on Thursday, April 22 and Friday, April 23, 1999, to be pleasantly surprised by winning 15 individual awards and two collective awards. Among the individual winners were Claudia Hawrylewicz, Crystal Duran, Brian Louie, Mark Malone, Roy Herman, Matt Furlane, Lorena Guerrero and Carole Sharwarko.

These staff members were

commended for their excellence in categories such as News Writing, Features Writing, Editorial Writing, Opinion Writing, Arts Writing, Sports News and Features Writing, Single Photo Photography, Photo Spread Photography and Layout.

Among the individual awards, the Blazer won seven third place awards, three second place awards and three first place awards. The collective awards included second place in merit, which is decided by adding up specific point amounts for each place win (i.e. five points

for first, four for second, etc.), and first place in overall excellence which is decided by the analyzing of three different issues, the dates of which are unknown to the newspaper staff until after they come out (to avoid a staff working especially hard on the contest paper).

The Blazer staff would like to extend its thanks to all the avid readers on campus and remind them that the work is done for the students, by the students, and therefore the awards are shared by all. We wouldn't write it if you didn't read it.

Phi Theta Kappa inducts 144 new members

by Stephanie Busbey

Alpha Lambda Phi, JJC's Phi Theta Kappa chapter, welcomed 144 new members at a ceremony April 27. The chapter also welcomed J D Ross, JJC college president, as an honorary member.

Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 13 million members. To be eligible for membership, a student must complete "a minimum of 20 or more 100-level or higher classes, have an accumulative grade point average of 3.6 on a 4.0 scale, be currently enrolled in a minimum of three credit hours, adhere to the school conduct code and possess recognized qualities of membership," according to Alpha Lambda Phi's bylaws.

JJC's Phi Theta Kappa chapter has been very active this year, participating in the America Reads Challenge, volunteering at an Easter Egg Hunt, tutoring in Academic Skill Center and participating in the Big Brother/Big Sister Bowl for Kid's Sake bowl-a-thon.

The 1999 new spring Phi Theta Kappa initiates are Mildred Alquist, Melinda Allen, Brandon Alonso, Dorothy Andrews, Brian Bagnell, Mary Ann Barcus, Kristie Bettler, Mauverreck Blevins, Suzanne Borak, Dawn Boyle, Nancy Bunch, Sean Busbey, Patricia Carruth, Debra Celmer, Mindy Cook, Karen Cooper, Victoria Cronk, Karen DeLara-Meronezzi, Brian DuPont, Michelle Ehrenrath, Ron Gagne, Debra Garrett, Pamela Gjorgis, Tamara Hagen, Allison Harris, Kelly

Harvey, Julie Hoffman, Ellen Johnson, Katrina Kamotis, Dawn Kasik, Holly Keenon, Wendy Kiest, Paula Kirman, Arthur Knapp, Sean Krysnowski, Helen Kulhan, Michael Lavazza Jr., Sarah Lehman, Susan Lissy, Erin Adele Listner, Linda Long, Loana Lundquist, Daniel Markun, Melane Massey, Karen McGowan, Patricia McPhillips, Jody Mech, Cindy Milton, Rose Marie Nugent, Beverly Parker, Nina Patel, Adam Petrovic, Ronald Pohl, William

Rakes, Marie Ramos, Steven Robbins, Jill Sandula, Robert Savers, Sara Sherman, Amanda Shields, William Simons, Traci Shivers, William Shores, Evelyn Smith, Linda Soppet, Jennifer Swiderski, Cheryl Synold, Lynn Tapella, John Thomas, Philip Tintera, Susan Togliatti, Stephanie Ullsmuth, Katrina VanderBiezen, Monica Warriner, Daniel Webb, Heather Wilkus, Mark Wittgen, Debra Wyatt, Debra Wojciechowski, Lucian Ziolyek, and Mandy Zubie.

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The Blazer is a student-run publication. Opinions expressed in the Blazer do not necessarily reflect the views of the faculty or administration.

"Margin" continued from front page

started. "I would like to attend some board meetings to get oriented to the board and talk to the other trustees to develop a rapport with them," he says. "I would like to listen to the president of the college to understand his vision for the future."

May states, "I am a believer that education is lifelong process." May also encourages students to enjoy their education. He also wants to point out to students, "For any concerns or needs you have, I have an open door."

In the election itself, Dystynp had the top number of votes in the

election numbering 22,717. Coming in at second place, May received 16,627 votes. In third place was Barbara Jean Delaney with 15,514 votes. Douglas L. Zeich came in at fourth place with 9,654 votes.

In fifth place was Raccen "Dolly" Pierce with 9,306 votes. In sixth place was current board member John Henko who received 8,387 votes. In seventh place was Richard L. Benson with 8,235 votes. Richard A. Oestereich finished last with 5,591 votes. In JJC's district, 96,031 total votes and 61,786 votes were cast.

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News

News Briefs

Thanks

The Child Care Center would like to thank those who patronized their Annual Cookie Sale. With the funds raised, the Center bought basketballs and a wooden train.

Raffle

Automated Systems Club is sponsoring a raffle on May 7. Prizes include Cubs tickets and a gift pack-

age including a limo, dinner, theater and a hotel stay. Tickets are \$2 each or 5 for \$8 and are available in the tech 'U' area in T-building.

Jazz Concert

This annual concert will be presented on Friday, May 7, at 7:30 in the fine arts theater. Included will be "Young and Foolish," "Dark Side of the Blues" and "The Flintstones."

Book Buyback

Buyback for textbooks will be held at the Main Campus on May 10-13 from 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. and on May 14 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Buyback at North Campus will be on May 12 from 6 p.m.-8 p.m.

Students honored

Rebecca Lafond of Joliet and Polly Yaguchi of Plainfield were honored at the annual recognition of the Illinois Phi Theta Kappa Academic Team. Lafond, a nursing major, and Yaguchi, an education major, were Illinois finalists in the annual national essay contest. They both received a medallion.



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(from left to right) Pam Greany, Carrie Osheim, Debbie Wright and Karen Friedenberg pose behind their final projects—food!

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Opinion

And the Oscar goes to... Carole for the most rambling column

by Carole Sharwarko

Wow, this is a lot harder than I thought it would be. I love my job. I stress me out terribly and I spend nights awake wondering how I am going to get another issue out. But now as all that ends, I wonder how I will ever do without it. This has been an amazing year for me. I have learned so much about the newspaper business and the business of life and dealing with people. People—that's a good place to start.

This is going to sound like I won an academy award. I would like to thank my wonderful staff for dealing with my craziness and my sometimes outlandish demands. Specifically I would like to thank Stephanie Busbey for being the most practical and rational person I know (in other words, my total

opposite) and also for her terribly contagious laugh. Mark Malone and Debbie Bowden for doing all the things with the layout that they said they couldn't do and finally did after I begged them enough. Lorena Guerrero for being an interesting distraction, all my writers for doing their stories with barely any notice because I got home late and forgot to call them, Shane Lindsay for getting all his pictures with barely any notice because I got home late and forgot to call him and, last but not least, Brian Laule because, although he only wrote a couple of stories, he procured my sanity on many an exasperating day and always kept me abreast of the situation. Well, I guess that's everyone.

Ha ha Bob Marcink, I bet you thought I forgot about you. What I

would like to say about my advisor and teacher Bob Marcink is that he is a hardened, stubborn Pennsylvania brat... and one of the most sincere people I have ever met. I learned more about journalism from him—real journalism, not just the stuff you read in a textbook—than I probably will ever from anyone. He is a really caring person, both as an instructor and an advisor, even if he is a little quirky. All right, all right, enough mushy stuff.

It's hard to write one of these end-of-the-year columns like this. There is so much I could say, but I know that if I get into anything, I will start to ramble (Mark reminded me). So, thank you for reading and please give Stephanie your support next year when she fills my small shoes

A few words of wisdom from a seasoned veteran

by Bob Marcink, Blazer Advisor

As we say in the journalism business, the last issue of the Blazer for the 1998-1999 school year is "in the can."

I would like to say, "It's hard to believe the staff has done 10 of these already this year," but that would be disingenuous. No one who has ever worked on a publication has ever made that statement with a straight face.

Newspaper work is tough stuff for even the most grizzled veteran of the business. Digging up information, writing stories, taking photographs and laying out a newspaper are challenging tasks. But they are challenging tasks that come with unique payoffs, and that's why newspaper people do what they do.

When people ask me what I liked most about the daily newspaper grind when I was a reporter and editor, I always point to the satisfaction I felt every day when the newspaper came off the press. As a newspaper person, you get to see the fruits of your labor at the end of every day. You get to hold it in your hand, read it, critique it and pass it along. You get to turn the pages on tangible proof that you and the staff did that day. On good days you leave the office with a satisfied calm. On bad days—well, you know there's always tomorrow.

That's the beauty of the news business, and that's why I still occasionally miss the electricity of a newsroom. Now I get my thrill vicariously through the Blazer staff—sometimes they give me more thrills than I need, but that's okay, too.

For the second year in a row, Blazer staff members have returned from the Illinois Community College Journalism Association conference with awards in their hands. I am proud of their accomplishments. Editor Carole Sharwarko, Production Manager Mark Malone, Associate Editor Stephanie Busbey, News Editor Scott Larson, Advertising Manager Lorraine Guerrero and Photo

Editor Shane Lindsay all worked hard this year to put out the best newspaper they could. Writers like Brian Laule, Rebecca Sallor, Becky Shinn, Crystal Dunn, Dorethea Landberg, Sky Freeman, Dan Guierrez, Claudia Hawrylycz, Jason Henschel, Roy Herman and others knocked on doors, made countless phone calls and took time from their busy lives to provide the newspaper with its lifeline—news, sports and entertainment copy. Without them, the newspaper would not have been half as successful.

But, while the awards are nice—I have not returned one yet—the process is much more important.

The real satisfaction comes from doing the work and seeing a impact a college community. The real satisfaction also comes from knowing the Blazer is a student voice on campus. The administration doesn't tell the staff what to write, the board of trustees doesn't tell the staff what to write, and I don't tell the staff what to write. What you see in the Blazer is determined by the editor and her staff, and that is how it should be.

The Blazer will return again in the fall under the guidance of incoming Editor Stephanie Busbey and Production Manager Mark Malone. I am confident they will continue to produce a newspaper the student body can point to with pride.

Carole Sharwarko and her staff are leaving the Blazer in excellent shape. I see no reason why Stephanie won't build upon that legacy.

But, if the Blazer is to continue to be a strong voice for students, she will need help. That is where you come in. You don't have to be an experienced writer, editor or photographer to get involved. All you need is the desire to be part of a student organization that, if used properly, can have a major impact on the college community. I hope to see some of you next fall at our first meeting. Remember, this is your newspaper. It will only be as good as the student body wants it to be.



(from left to right) Christopher Bachmann, Tom Drugas, Steve Peterson and Kenneth Orlando Marrero (not standing) in a scene from "Holy Ghosts."

In the name of the father, son and 'Holy Ghosts'

by Becca Sallor

Holy Ghosts, Batman! The Joliet Junior College Fine Arts Department opened its latest play, "Holy Ghosts," on Thursday, April 22. The play was based on a small, religious organization involved in snake-handling and open-mindedness.

"Holy Ghosts" was written by Romulus Linney.

The production was directed by Nicki Blovers and ran until Sunday, April 25.

Blovers wore many hats with this production. In addition to directing, she was responsible for lighting design. She also shared the task of scenic design with Jason Foreman.

The added workload didn't hurt the production... all elements came together to make for a divine show.

Upon entering the theater, the scenery was immediately warm, realistic, and inviting. As the characters walked on to the stage, they carried this warmth with them.

Co-Costume Coordinators Toro Drugas and Jennifer Trent had the big picture in mind when they dressed the actors and actresses. While the clothing was constructed with contemporary pieces, careful planning with colors, textures and contrasts made the production visually complete.

Indeed, the quaint country

dress worn by leading character Nancy Shedman (played by Becky Joachum) was not only interesting and appropriate, but drew the eye immediately to this jewel of a back woods wife and her ruby red hair.

Eric Yankee (Carl Spetter) was adorable in his sloppy, too-large overalls and pink shirt, giving him a "little boy who has lost his puppy" image that matched his sad, sad story.

It is hard to say which actor or actress stepped out most vividly to the audience. From main characters like Nancy and Coleman Shedman (Jacob Nielsen) to minor players like old and powerful Mrs. Wall (Kim Hill), sexy Bonnie Bridge (Jaqueline Collins) and kind, sickly Cancer Man (Kenneth Orlando Marrero), stage presence was slathered everywhere.

Steve Peterson (Orin Hart), returning from the recent production of "Company," was delicious as usual, playing a cowboy-booted gay man who finds acceptance with his lover in the religious cult.

Rev. Obadiah Buckhorn, Sr. (Jeremy K. Dew) will not be forgotten anytime soon. His effective, TV-evangelist portrayal of the cult's wife-consuming leader of the cult made me want to applaud at the same time he gave me the creeps.

ALL the players were genuine and effective, including members that didn't speak a word

Even the weather played an energetic role in this production. As the tension in the play built up, the real sky outside let go of a storm it had been saving. Rain pounded on the roof, fostering a feeling of impending doom. Just as the climax of the play drew nearer, and the poisonous snakes were to be released from their boxes and handled by members of the cult, an ominous thunderbolt was heard. It was probably a sign from God.

Perhaps the most interesting part of this play is also the most aggravating—identifying the theme. Romulus Linney's script leaves us wondering if the play is condemning religious cults or praising their ability to accept outcasts without question.

While religious salvation seems a better fate than anger and violence for Coleman Shedman, we sigh in relief for his wife when she has the sense to escape it. But even the exasperation of figuring out what this play means provides one of the best things that theater can offer—food for thought.

The script, direction, set, costumes and live music added up to one great religious service. The sermon wasn't too preachy, and the very special effects and excellent acting confirmed once again that there is something unique and wonderful about live theater.

Hallelujah!

Letter Policy

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, or drop them off at the Blazer office at G-1009. The mailing address of the Blazer is:

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Features

Huge job fair a big success

photos by
Shane Lindsay



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Features

Portfolio Development Class

Adults earn college credit for learning about themselves

by Claudia Hawrylewicz

"Adults often sell themselves short," says Sue Dailey, a Joliet Junior College student. "Life experience is a real value that can be transferred into college credit."

Dailey is one of the first four students who recently received college credit from JJC for prior learning experience. She received 10 credits from her initial portfolio submission.

In the portfolio development class, GSD 103, students learn how to compile their life experiences into a portfolio to earn college credit.

Prior learning can come from a variety of experiences. "Job or community service, hobbies, seminars and workshops," says Carol Gordon JJC portfolio instructor.

"Life experience is a real value that can be transferred into college credit."

-Sue Dailey, portfolio credit hour earner

According to Gordon, the portfolio class is new to JJC. It was first offered during the spring semester of 1998. Because students have one year to submit their portfolio these students are now receiving credit, she explains.

College credit for life experience is gaining acceptance in academia. "There has been an increase of area schools accepting portfolio classes," Gordon says.

Students learn how to put together their portfolios during the course. "It is an involved process, but with support from the GSD 103 class it is very manageable," Gordon says. She explains that students learn how to match their life experiences with the course con-



Bob Hoffman

photo courtesy of Portfolio Development as described in the college catalog. When the portfolio is finished, the student submits it to the faculty member who teaches that course.

Dailey says, "The class was very useful in recognizing the many alternatives for earning classroom credit."

"The class was very helpful in

identifying your skills," says Bob Hoffman, a JJC student who 15 CIS credits for his portfolio. He also states that he found it helpful to network with the other students.

For Dailey, shared learning was also the key that made the class worthwhile. Dailey says, "The course is fabulous. It afforded us the time to network and share ideas." She says she learned about other options such as CLEP, Dante, and proficiency exams from the experiences of other students.

Adult learning theory is also studied in the course. "The class focuses on how adults learn differently than traditional students," Gordon says. "Students are taught to appreciate different teaching and learning styles, creative time management and how to identify multiple intelligences."

Both Hoffman and Dailey describe Gordon as a coach.



Sue Dailey

photo courtesy of Portfolio Development. Hoffman says, "she is like a mother hen. She nudges you along, pushing you to complete your portfolio."

GSD 103 is a three-credit hour class which is prerequisite for submitting the portfolio. Credits from this class may be applied toward an associate degree. Students enrolled in GSD 103 are not required to sub-

mit a portfolio. Students must complete a rough draft for one class in order to get credit for the course.

According to Gordon, JJC charges a flat fee of \$150 for submitting a portfolio regardless of the number of credits earned. JJC currently allows students to earn a maximum of 30 semester hours for all prior learning. Gordon says, "not every class is available for portfolio. Students can usually portfolio business and technical classes; for the other classes there are CLEP or proficiency tests."

"Adult students are self-directed," says Gordon. "They just need encouraging." The portfolio class fulfills that need by helping adult students obtain a degree in less time by giving them credit for life experience.

GSD 103 will be offered during the summer and fall semesters of 1999.

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Disaster in the heartland sparks debate about the 'unwritten rule'

Just Talking Sports

by Mark Malone

Simply, it left me shaking my head in confusion.

Lured in a early morning trance while driving to school, I listened to a popular sports radio show start a brief discussion on an strange, and unfortunate story of, well, stupidity in college baseball.

Waiting in anticipation for the opening pitch, Evansville's leadoff hitter Anthony Molina waved a few warm-up swings just before facing Missouri Valley Conference foe, the Wichita State Shockers.

According to the *Wichita Eagle*, Molina stood approximately 25 feet from home plate while warming up; then he relaxed and gazed into right field.

Subsequently, Wichita State star pitcher Ben Christensen pegged the unsuspecting Molina in the head because he believed Molina was too close to the plate and was timing his pitches.

"There's no excuse whatsoever for hitting him. Absolutely none. There is an excuse... and I don't know why."

-Gene Stephenson, Wichita State coach

The aftermath left Molina, from Molina, Ill., with a one-inch laceration above his left eye, a broken cheek bone, possibly damaged vision and an uncertain future in baseball.

"My main concern right now is about seeing again," Molina told an *Associated Press* reporter. "They told me that my vision is 20/400 in my left eye, and that there's a chance I may never get my vision all the way back.

I always thought that when I quit playing baseball it would be my decision. Now I may not have a choice."

Considering the many questions still unanswered, the first one that arises should appear basic for any baseball person. Why didn't Christensen ask the umpire to move Molina into the on-deck circle?

Being a sports correspondent for a local daily newspaper, I was recently attending a high school baseball game where the umpire told several players to back away from the plate while the pitcher completed their pre-tinning warm-ups.

During the umpire's requests, the players simply did not realize they were that close to the plate. And every time, each player politely walked back to the on-deck circle.

In fact, in one case during the same game, the pitcher asked the umpire to move a batter into the on-deck circle. At the time I thought its meaning was to protect the batter from a wild pitch, but I forgot about the 'unwritten rule.'

In regard to the opposing pitcher, this rule states a batter should reserve their distance to home plate as the pitcher warms up. However, in cases like Molina's, the batter is too close and the pitcher has the option to brush him back.

But was Molina too close? And was he timing pitches?

Some estimates, from the *Wichita Eagle* to the *Associated Press*, range Molina's distance from 15 to 35 feet from the plate. Honestly, 15 feet may be a little close. But if Molina was any further away than that, Christensen should face more than the four game suspension he was initially given.

"I have no understanding of an unwritten rule like that when a player is standing 25 feet from home plate," Evansville coach Jim Brownlee said. "What is most

upsetting to me is the insinuation that Anthony was too close to the plate or where he was not supposed to be. I can't even comprehend it."

He's not the only one.

But, according to *Associated Press*, Molina still claims he was not timing Christensen's pitches.

"I was not even close enough to time pitches, and if I had been,



Anthony Molina, a baseball player for the University of Evansville, was beaten in the head while waiting for the game to start. The *Wichita State* pitcher who hit him, Ben Christensen, is reportedly suspended for the remainder of the season.

photo courtesy Jeff Tuttle
Wichita Eagle

the ball would've hit me in the right eye, because I'm left handed," said Molina. "I was looking down at my bat when he threw it."

Following the incident, Molina filed assault charges, and rightfully so.

Is that being too harsh?

Not in the least, because the throw was intentional, just as if someone were swinging their fist. If any pitcher, Roger Clemens or Ben Christensen, was throwing at a player that was at least 15 feet away, without at least asking the umpire to move him, they deserve the same.

Besides, considering that Christensen is rated one of the top pitchers in collegiate baseball, not to mention being a starter for the seventh ranked team in the nation, I sincerely do not believe that

Molina would have gained an advantage if he was timing pitches. Mainly because Molina already smacked two home runs against Christensen in previous meetings. In fact, the last home was almost exactly one year ago.

"I saw the whole thing and I never seen anything like it," said Brownlee. "I don't know why the best pitcher in college baseball would ever do that."

Currently, MVC commissioner Doug Elgin is expected to make a decision to Christensen's fate after further investigation. Although, recent reports from the *Wichita Eagle* say Christensen will be suspended for the rest of the season.

"There's no excuse whatsoever for hitting him," Wichita State head coach Gene Stephenson told the *Wichita Eagle*. "Absolutely none. There is no excuse... and I do not know why."

Tell that to Anthony Molina.

"Wolves baseball" from back page

streaks during the season, but we could better have a look of a lot better in some aspects," said King. "Pitching and defense win games, and we have to shun up our defense."

Through 53 regular season games, the Wolves have committed 99 errors. JUC has a 944 fielding percentage, while the Wolves have also allowed 102 unearned runs.

However, Scott Lucht has emerged through the season collecting 8 saves and producing a scarily 1.86 ERA. Lucht also has an 8-3 regular season record. In 53-plus innings pitched, he has struck out 38 and allowed just 16 runs to score.

"Scott has gotten us out of a lot of jams," said King. "He's a sidearm pitcher, and that can cause some deception to opposing hitters."

The Blazer staff wishes everyone a safe and happy summer. We look forward to seeing you again in the fall.

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Where have all the Sox fans gone?

Just Talking Sports

by Dan Gutierrez

On April ninth I made my annual trek to Comiskey Park to see the White Sox on opening day. I got up to the stadium and witnessed all the sights and sounds which make baseball our national pastime.

The vendors yelling "get your programs," the marching band marching into the stadium, and the sounds of thousands of fans entering the ballpark. But upon entering the stadium, grabbing a hot dog and pop, and getting to my seat, my cheers turned to jeers. I sat down and saw that the stadium was nearly empty.

I figured that this was just due to the fact that I got to the game a little early. I was sure that the rest of the fans would arrive soon enough.

But once the game started and I noticed the stadium still was only

about 1/3 filled, I became a bit upset. Why is it that fans refuse to come out and watch these guys play?

I remember in 1993 when the Sox were on their way to winning the A.L. West title, Comiskey Park was packed every night. Now the Sox are lucky if they get 40,000 fans for a three game series. When did this fan revolt begin? I would have to say that this began the year following the baseball strike of 1994.

I remember the media saying that the lack of fan support was due to the public backlash towards the players and owners due to the strike. But in the years since the strike almost every other team has regained its pre-strike attendance average while the Sox attendance is around 15,000 fans a game.

Why are the White Sox the exception to this? Even in 1997 when the Sox were less than five games out of first place, the fans were still no where in sight. Is it because the fans are angry at management for dismissal of fan

favorites such as Lance Johnson, Ozzie Guillen, and Robin Ventura? Or is it that the fans think the Sox just flat out stink? I tend to disagree with the latter.

Sure, the Sox may not be a championship team, but during the late 80s when the team was absolutely horrid, the Sox still had more fans come out to the ballpark. I tend to think that the lack of fan support is due in large part to the lack of familiarity with the players. In the early 90's the Sox had Carlton Fisk, Ozzie Guillen, Robin Ventura, Jack McDowell, and Frank Thomas on the team. Now the team is filled with names like McKay, Christensen, Mike Howry, and John Snyder.

Sure, these guys are virtual no names to the baseball world now, but in a few years these guys are going to be the cream of the crop.

Hopefully in a few years, or maybe later this year we will be able to see October baseball on the south side, and maybe even a sell-out or two.

Sports

Top seeded Wolves cruise into district tournament

by Mark Malone

By the final of a 17-3 victory over Illinois Valley on Sun. May 2, the JJC baseball team hoisted their overall record to 36-22, and grabbed their fourth Region IV Division III tournament championship in six years.

But, no mistake about it, this was just one important step to achieve their main goal.

"We want to win the regional tournament, and we want to win the district," said JJC head coach Wayne King. "But overall we want to go to the World Series."

"When we get there, we want our freshman to get the experience of the whole thing. But, we hold our own destiny."

After dropping the previous game, 9-3 also on Sunday, JJC turned to tournament MVP Kevin Skirich for the crowning victory.

Throughout 6-plus innings of quality relief for starter Jake Prince, Skirich allowed just one run on three hits to clock up his sixth victory of the season.



Posting a 32-21 regular season record, the top seeded Wolves went 4-1 in regionals.

file photo:Shane Lindsay

"Kevin has done well this year," said King. "But during the regular season he knew he was not pitching as well as he was capable of."

Returning from an injury last

year, Skirich went 4-3 with a 3.90 ERA and punched out 39 through 55 innings pitched. Then in tournament play, Skirich (6-3) pitched an 11-0 decision over Harper College on Fri. April 31.

Lady Wolves enter tournament with aim set on nationals

by Dan Gutierrez

With the softball team winding down its regular season, Lady Wolves head coach Jack Smith is prepping his players for a run at the NCAA Division III national finals.

However, JJC, who is currently ranked 13th in the NCAA Division III polls, will have to knock off the defending conference and national champion, the College of DuPage.

After injuries to Dawn Glasscock, George Szymczak and

Lacey Susan, the Lady Wolves are back to full strength and pumping on all cylinders.

JJC bats have definitely been thriving as of late, with Beth Schultz carrying a team best batting average at .421 with 18 RBIs. Other batting leaders include: Glasscock with a .357 average, George Szymczak mounting .407, Lisa Gierich with a .375 average and Krystal Himes at .353.

The Lady Wolves have been doing a good job of getting runners on base and driving them home. In

fact, Glasscock leads the team with 27 RBIs, while Stephanie Sharp, Himes, and Gierich each has contributed 21.

However, JJC has not only been winning games with the lumber, they have also had solid pitching and defense along the way. Mounting a 20-13 record with an ERA of 1.75, Glasscock has topped all Division III pitchers with 244 strikeouts.

By the conclusion of the regular season, JJC's defense ranked fourth with a .929 team fielding percentage. The Lady Wolves recorded 814 putouts and 248 assists through 40 regular season games.

Obviously, JJC softball has all the tools to be considered a great team, but it will take a stellar effort to knock off College of DuPage. Currently, College of DuPage is the top ranked team in Division III, escorting a 17-5 overall record.

But with the Lady Wolves' sights set on nationals, anything is possible.

Powered by a seven-run fifth inning, the Wolves offense pounded out 22 hits against Illinois Valley. Brendan Loughery, John Raven and Andy Urbancic all slugged run scoring triples.

"Hitting's contagious," said King. "And we've been swinging the bats better down the stretch." Also, the catcher Loughery knocked in five runs, and nabbed a runner trying to steal third in the third inning.

But, at the beginning of the tournament, the top seeded Wolves struggled off four early errors to steal a 12-2 six inning win over the Rock Valley College Golden Eagles.

"When we make errors, we make them in bunches," said King. "We were averaging nearly two errors a game during the regular

season, so the mistakes really have been a slap in the face."

But, Kevin Meisnerbach allowed just three hits through the entire six innings for his fifth victory of the season. Meanwhile, the Wolves offense exploded for eight runs in the fifth inning for the opening tournament victory. JJC would win the next three games, and they would go 4-1 in regional play.

But, erupting at the middle of the regular season, the JJC bats have simply been on fire. Urbancic pushed the team with a .385 regular season average, while his 38 RBIs was tops on the team. Also, Urbancic led the team in walks, and was tied for the team lead with four home runs and 12 doubles.

"Urbancic is not your typical clean-up hitter," said King. "He's more of a contact hitter that hits the ball the opposite way."

"He's done pretty good this year, and has really progressed throughout the year."

Also, McDonald has gathered a .360 regular season average with three home runs, while Raven had a .322 average with 16 RBIs and four home runs respectively.

At one point during the season, JJC strung a 14-game winning streak, and won 17-of-18 to cap a 32-21 season record. The Wolves have shown a mixture of consistency by mounting a .308 team batting average, while the pitching staff has gathered a 4.62 season ERA.

"We put together a couple of 'See 'Wolves Baseball' continued on page 7

Wolves possess a new outlook on life

Township graduate, placed fourth on the Wolves singles depth chart, but has since claimed the top spot. Skoryi has also teamed up with freshman Dale O'Brien, who was graduated from Joliet Township, to form the leading doubles team for JJC.

"They've had their ups and downs," said Vanderwall. "But, they earned a big win against Rock Valley and stayed close with Harper College. So, anything can happen at the tournament."

However, hidden behind the injuries, records and bad weather, emerges the soul and inspiration of the Wolves season. O'Brien, and freshman Jack Prost, have pushed the team to a new perspective.

"It has been kind of interesting with them," said Vanderwall. "They've taught everyone with the team, not only about how the game is played, but about life in general."

Previously, O'Brien and Prost absorbed the finer points of tennis at the Fitness Forum Tennis Club in Lockport. Showcasing their talents, both competed in leagues and for club teams. But, as the post season appears in focus, Vanderwall hopes the freshman filled squad can gain some experience for next year.

"We have to be consistent at the tournament," said Vanderwall. "Hopefully the weather will cooperate and the winds will remain calm. But, like I said, anything can happen at tournament time."

HELP WANTED:

The Blazer is looking for a sports editor for the 1999-2000 school year. This paid position requires an interest in sports and in sports writing. If interested please contact Bob Marcink at 280-2607, or Ext. 2607.

Upcoming Games

Wolves Baseball

April 29-May 2
Division III Region IV
Tournament at JJC

May 8-9
Division III Regional
District Tournament

May 15-21
NJCAA Division III
World Series
Batavia, New York

Lady Wolves Softball

May 1-4
Division III Region IV
Playoffs

May 7-8
Division III Region IV
Finals

May 20-22
Div. III Championship
Anne Arundel C.C.,
Maryland

Wolves Tennis

April 30-May 1
N4C Region IV
Tournament

Other Events

-The soccer tournament has been cancelled because the teams that were to participate are away in summer leagues.

-The JJC baseball team will play in the district tournament at home on May 8 at 12:00.

Inside

Catch the spirit

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Bike club avoids trees

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Mainstreet

Come to Marvin's Room

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Fly, Get Skintight with Christina Aguilera

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50 years and counting...



Page 12

Wolves drop home opener

Page 12

Board cuts ties with Foundation

by Carole Shawaroko

The JJC Board of Trustees has severed ties with the JJC Foundation, the school's main source of scholarship money. A motion of "no confidence" regarding the Foundation resulted in a 4-3 vote in favor of the motion to cut off the Foundation's assistance.

The Foundation is made up of a group of local volunteers, some alumni and others simply members of the community, that organized to petition for money creating schol-

arships for JJC students. The Foundation was never under school rule, but did use some school funds and resources. According to Director of Community Relations D.J. Wells, though, the vote "affirmed that college resources that are used by the Foundation are to be cut off."

The school's Office of Institutional Advancement, which performs similar functions, raising money for scholarships and programs, formerly took its direction

from the Foundation, and according to Wells, the two groups worked together, through aid of a liaison, to benefit JJC and its students.

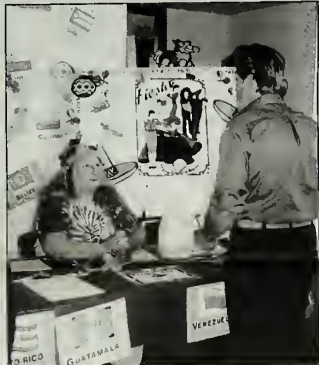
No jobs were lost in the decision, but it is now uncertain where the two groups will go from here.

"They [the Foundation] can continue to do what they want," remarked Wells, "as long as they can do it without the aid of the college."

When asked what the motive

may have been behind the decision, which may affect the amount of scholarships the school can give out, Wells said simply, "I can't answer that."

However, Trustee Board President John Herko publicly criticized Foundation members last spring for actively supporting his two opponents. The Foundation members said they were acting as private citizens, but Herko said, in becoming involved in a political race, they stepped over the line.



Carol Hamilton explains certain aspects of *Latinos Unidos* at their "best decorated booth."

photo taken by Lorraine Guerrero

Mainstreet flashes back to 60s with JucoStock '99

by Craig Harju and Lorraine Guerrero

If you went down the Concourse of Joliet Junior College on Sept. 8 and 9 you might have thought you had been transported back to the 1960s. No, you were not having a psychedelic flashback, it was JucoStock, otherwise known as the semi-annual JJC Mainstreet event.

Mainstreet is designed to expose students and staff to all clubs, organizations and services available to them.

"The student seemed to have a great time enjoying the theme, which took us all back to the 60s," said Director of Student Services and Activities Patrice Fine.

Students and staff alike were dressed up in hippie gear. Some donned the JJC JucoStock tie-dye t-shirts, and some even chose to wear flowers in their hair.

Radio station Q101-FM made

an appearance, giving out freebies such as Q101 stickers, Mancow key chains and more. A free food sampling fair in the cafeteria featuring many different foods caught the attention of hundreds of students and staff. A 50-cent raffle took place for a funky hand-shaped chair. Each club participated in a penny war to see who could get the most money in their jug, which the JJC Players won with an astounding \$161.

A best-booth contest was also held, which was won by *Latinos Unidos*. They received \$50 and two JucoStock t-shirts for their win. The two-day event took months of planning and effort on the part of the JJC Student Alliance and Fine.

"There was a record turnout of participation by new clubs that were trying to get started, and the existing clubs were out in force as well," said Fine.

News Release

Vet-Tech building prepares JJC for next millennium

The Vet-Tech building currently under construction is scheduled to be completed and classes are scheduled to begin by mid-January 2000. The 16,000 square-foot building is going to house the school's newly created Veterinary Technicians program and to provide additional classroom space for some of the college's industrial training programs. The construction bid by Ashlar Builders LLC of Lombard which includes construction, architectural, engineering and contingency fees, came to \$2,762,751.

"This new building is yet another example of our efforts to develop and offer programs and services that are viable for the next millennium," stated President J.D. Ross during the groundbreaking ceremony. "This new building will be a conduit through which our students will pass to rewarding and well-paying professional futures."

"This new facility will be an investment in the future," noted JJC Board Chairman Dr. John Herko. "JJC students and local business and industry throughout the college's district will reap the profits of this investment in the

form of educational training and retraining programs." The Veterinary Technicians program is a fairly unique program that addresses a current workforce shortage. The program will be one of only two in Illinois, and is one of a handful in the Midwest. Recent market analysis indicated a need for as many as 5000 veterinary technicians nationwide. "There is an obvious need and

a willing supply," said Dr. Jim Ehrhage, Agriculture/Horticulture Sciences Department chair.

Veterinary technicians assist veterinary doctors in treating and caring for animals, office management, customer relations, surgical assistance, anesthesia administration, prescription preparation and laboratory testing. Veterinary technicians must be licensed in Illinois by the Department of Professional Regulation.



Construction continues on the new Vet-Tech building which is slated to be completed and ready for classes by January 2000.

photo taken by Lorraine Guerrero

JJC plans to have a full-time day class of 24 freshman students and classes for evening students.

"By limiting the program to 24, we can be sure students get the hands-on learning they need. The evening courses will allow those who are waiting to get into the program to get a head start and will permit those working during the day to participate," Ehrhage said.

See "Vet Tech" on Page 4

Editorial

Show some pride JJC

We have noticed a general lack of school pride for Joliet Junior College from the student body.

JJC will be celebrating its centennial in 2001, and the JJC Wolves football team is celebrating its 50th year running. Both are significant events, and should be recognized and celebrated by all. However, we feel JJC should be recognized and celebrated every day for the great service they provide for the community.

Founded in 1901, JJC is the oldest junior college in the U.S. It was created for the community, for the "little people," for the average Joe. It was created for every man and woman to have the opportunity to earn a college degree. Today, JJC offers a variety of courses at a reasonable price that students can use to transfer to a four-year university, attain an A.A. or A.S., or simply to continue education.

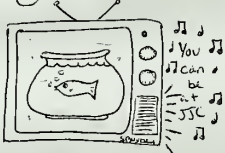
In 1901, it was a big deal if you got to go to college right after you graduated high school. A lot of people had to work at, and it's seen as a tragedy if a student has to drop out of high school to work.

When asked "What school are you going to—SIU, U of I, UIC?" the most common reply from JJC students is "No, just JJC..." while looking at the ground.

Usually, you don't even have to ask someone who goes to a four-year university where they go, and they'll give you the best P.R. speech about their school that anyone could give you. Some people are such good representatives for their schools, the schools should pay them.

We would like to encourage JJC students to hold their heads up high when they say they go to JJC. We would even go so far as to say to be one of those annoying P.R. people, you might not get paid for it, but JJC certainly deserves it.

533 money put
to good use



1900 - ?

Letters to the Editor

Student shares success story

Dear Editor,

The following is a student testimonial, meant to encourage minority students on the importance of continuing their education, provided by the Multicultural Transfer Center.

JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE HELPED me get the education needed to do general bookkeeping out of my home for friends and family. JJC also helped me get the confidence needed in my full-time career as a legal secretary.

IF I KNEW THEN WHAT I

KNOW NOW I would have tried to earn my degree quicker than I did.

I HAVE LEARNED OVER THE YEARS... that education is a vital piece in a person's life. The more you know the farther you get in life. I am a 1999 graduate of Joliet Junior College.

Stella M. Westfall
Stella has earned an associates in Applied Science - Accounting from JJC. She is now a Legal Secretary and is doing bookkeeping for a business out of her home.

From the recesses

by Carole Sharwarko



Ramen noodles and tamales bring life lesson

I need to start this first column of the year with an anecdote. My best friend and her boyfriend just moved in together in an apartment in downtown Chicago, where they both attend school. Anyway, last weekend, I picked them up from the train station because I was going to spend the evening with my best friend.

As we were driving to drop her boyfriend off at his friend's house, he said that he was going to go grocery shopping and have his friend drive him home.

My friend gave her boyfriend \$12 and said, "Get me a dozen eggs, a loaf of bread and a gallon of milk."

As he repeated it over and over ("milk, eggs, bread") I asked him if

he wanted to make a list. "No," he said. "I'll remember."

Famous last words, huh?

We got back to her apartment that night and she opened her fridge. "Where's my food?" she asked. Now, what did she want him to get? Remember? Don't look, that's right—milk, eggs and bread. Well, he forgot what she wanted and so instead bought (ready for this?) ten packages of Ramen noodles, a package of bologna and frozen tamales. I laughed so hard when I heard this that I almost passed out.

My friend was smart, a little angry, but her boyfriend stood by his actions, though totally irresponsible. This made me think

I started to think about mutu-

ty. What this guy did was immature, but he's only 20 years old and, the truth is, he probably doesn't know any better yet. And, strange as it may sound, I almost admired him for standing up for his decision, silly as it was.

That's the thing about growing up. You make a lot of decisions. And when it comes down to it, it doesn't really matter what decision you make, as long as you learn from it and stand by it. Be proud of the decisions you make, but be ready to admit it when you make a bad one.

My friend's boyfriend did concede that he should have made a list, and it was dumb of him to forget milk, eggs and bread. "But," he added, "tamales are good."

Pull up a chair

by Stephanie Busbey



Tick tock the clock strikes you

Here we are, the beginning of another semester. Fall 1999. Before we know it, the semester will be over and the year 2000 will be upon us. Think about that for a minute—the year 2000. Can you even comprehend that large amount of time?

The eighty years the average person lives pales in comparison to such a large number, and even more so to the 4.6 billion years Earth has been around.

I can barely comprehend the almost-20 years I have been alive, let alone the 60 years I hopefully have ahead of me.

Time may seem to go by slowly, or fast, but either way, we only have a limited amount of time to experience life. Time isn't just valuable, it is invaluable.

Stop and think about what you've done so far in the past 24 hours. Maybe you went to school and studied or went to work for about eight hours. Most likely, you slept for a good eight hours as well.

But what did you really do? Do your days seem to be formulaic? Are you just going through the motions day to day, month by month, year by year?

Have you set any goals for yourself, and are they really your goals, or are they just a badge you can flash at the "what are you going to do with your life" police? Or are they what they're "supposed" to be, with your life all napped out nice and neat by society, your parents, teachers, co-workers, friends, family and/or acquaintances?

If the above sounds familiar, how much time is going to pass before your life becomes your own? How much more time will pass before you realize you've

been a puppet, a sheep, just one in the herd? How much more time will pass before you DO something about it?

I find myself in the midst of the herd or with strings attached to my limbs from time to time. That's when I freak out and evaluate my life, and life itself, questioning everything and everyone.

I've actually been preoccupied with what I "should" be doing throughout my career as a student, devoting obscure amounts of time running student organizations and writing for student newspapers while I tried to get a 4.0 GPA. I was all about being a "model student."

Doing what I was "supposed" to do all the time left me doing things that I just did not want to do. Not only was I doing things I did-

n't always agree with or like, but I also was defining myself by my achievements.

Some might say "That's life," but I say that's messed up.

I don't want to define myself by my achievements, my clothes, my hair color or style, or even my goals. I don't want to limit my potential in that manner. Labels are such a waste of time.

Trying to define yourself in any manner is a waste of time. Consistency for the sake of consistency is idiotic.

Take responsibility for your own development. Learn for your own benefit, and not just for a degree. Explore the world, and yourself.

No matter what, make the most of your time.

Letter Policy

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, or drop them off at the Blazer office at 6-1009. The mailing address of the Blazer is:

Blazer

1215 Hubolt Road
Joliet, Illinois 60431

Also, you can send letters via e-mail at: blazer@jjc.cc.il.us

Opinion

Your future's not like they told us at graduation

Ahh, it is here. That's right boys and girls, once again, as young folks enter into the glistering halls of enlightenment. But, and you're welcome to correct me if I'm at all mistaken, we can also see this little bit of hub-bub as a time to reflect on exactly what's going on. And I suppose I'm gonna make some generalizations to get the conversation going, and you good people will listen respectfully.

Now, it seems to me that we are all here for one purpose. I am not gonna propose what that purpose is (I'm not a god), however, I'm sure in each of your heads you have some vision of what you plan on doing with all this enlightenment that is being shoved into your head, as well as other offices. It dangles there, *no?* Some little light, a ray of hope? Well, I'm gonna put forth a really scary question.

Do any of you really think you will be content after obtaining, or the process of obtaining whatever that little golden nugget of hope is?

Now, think hard. This is not routine choice. In fact, it may be kinda important. Personally, I can't envision myself doing anything five years down the line. I mean sure, unemployment is at an all time low, graduate schools are having problems getting enough people in, and the nation is in a rather peachy economic state. On the other hand, do I and do you really want to start being pragmatic at the age of 18?

I talk to other young folks from time to time, asking them what they plan on doing



The Case for a Comedic Pessimism

by Jeff O'Malley

with their lives. Two responses seem to come most frequently: engineering and teaching. I'm sure these are both fine professions. Yet, I must paint a picture for you.

There you are, engineer. You're sitting with blue print in front of you earning \$70,000 a year. Not bad. Not bad, at all. Now, engineer, with your TI-92 in hand, tell me what else you want from life! If I happen to impose a few other variables on the situation, see if your happiness level drops. Engineer, your wife seems to be cheating on you with a party-faced intellectual (such as myself). You watch a ghoulish amount of television. You make \$70,000 a year, but are living like you make \$100,000. And, as you may know, this may cause problems later on. If these variables are imposed, then do you really want this engineer life?

There you are, teacher. The kid in the front row seems to like looking up your skirt. You like what you are teaching, but 15 years of it seems a bit much. How much Beowulf can one woman explain? ... and don't get you started on Elhan Form. Nothing like counting stars. Ahh, you feel an intellectual ennui, *no?*

Now, of course, I'm sure some engi-

neers' wives are faithful and some teachers really enjoy Ethan Frome. But, get a general sense of what I mean. Your situation's dynamic is continually in flux. Do you really want to commit yourself to one set of goals? One set of plans? One woman? One man? One area of the world to live? One education?

Now, I'm not trying to be "Joe-Guidance Counselor." I'm talking about something a little deeper, or so I hope. You and I are so young. We live in a world still bounding with possibilities good and bad. I really hope that few of you are strong enough to be able to do any one thing for the rest of your lives. The ennui would kill me! But, even if you are that much stronger than I am, let me tell you some of the things you should do anyway.

Travel, become a boho. The bohemians knew what they are doing. Some of you have never even left this part of the country, much less seen the world. From what I hear, as you become burdened down with more and more hay in the form of children and property taxes ... the idea of taking a little excursion to Europe, let's say, seems to drive you back. Now, you may tell me you do not have

the capital to engage in such a lofty odyssey. Fine, fine ... go to St. Louis. It doesn't really matter. In this case, it's the journey and not the destination. If possible, live by hook or by crook. Go from town to town. Know life outside of your world. I find it a great way to learn the us and out of oneself. So did such greats as Jack Kerouac.

The other thing you should do, in my humble opinion, is experience culture. Now, I know to some of us this has an ominous tone; and, in fact, I agree. Culture can be very foppish. Yet, how can you know if you like Beethoven if all you ever eat is Napoléon and Frost-Lops? Point made. So, try some books not on the best seller list, 1,092 weeks in a row and some movies without Jennifer Love-Hewitt, Brad Pitt or Jackie Chan in them. Would it really kill you to try one symphony? It's just one night, and from what I hear, it's a great way to get a girl to, ahem, open up.

The point is (and perhaps it's getting to be a tired one), don't sell yourself short. Being pragmatic at 18 is insane. If these are the last days I am allowed to live without having some demeaning labor to perform, then by God I'm not going to be worried about how to get the best demeaning job for me! Take some of the enlightenment being driven into our brains and use it outside of pool halls and someplace to sneak a few beers in. After all, the beers, cuss and money all run out long before we die, but the illumination given off by the fire in our brains and bellies doesn't die 'til we do the same.

Fashion is as much about attitude as it is about clothes

Vanity for Oxymorons

by Lorraine Guerrero



There once was a girl who hated clothes and fashion.

Why? She thought that if she would have had nice, expensive clothes that everyone would like her, so she just let her self esteem go to hell and talked to no one. Yes, that sounds like a poor excuse but whether we want to admit it or not, clothing and style do have an impact on our lives.

For this girl, the mall was a whole different world, a world where only the rich kids ventured, we'll except once a year when the school took all of the "needy" children to pick out a pair of shoes, a coat and outfit. Everyone pretty much knew that she was a K-Mart, Blue Light Special runner. She was the girl that obviously wore the hand me downs of hand me downs from the Salvation Army and thrift stores.

She swore to herself, that when she got older and had my her own money, she would never get her clothes from the Salvation Army, Garage Sales, or anywhere besides the mall and never be hand me down because of her clothes. Well, I am that little girl. I do have my own money now, and yes, I still get my clothes from some of these places. And yes, I still got made fun of because of my clothes, the wild ones I buy from the ever so "great mall."

I have come to love what I once hated, Clothes and Fashion. I finally realized that it was not about where you get your clothes, how cheap or expensive they are,

its how you wear them, with Confidence.

So far the rest of the year, you will read my rants about what I love, what I love to hate about Fashion. Trends in fashion, as well as makeup. What is on its way in, and its way out. Do's and don'ts. Star Style, Special Occasion fashion, where to shop for great, gotta have items, and even spotlight JJC students that have great attitudes as well as style.

So with all further ado, here is your first and last fall fashion Report for the millennium from the ever Audrey Hepburn loving columnist, Lorraine.

After much research (I have read every fashion magazine from Bazaar to Vanity Fair, watched every fashion show and seen every designers fall collection from Armani to Yohji Yamamoto to discover that I this season has touch to love and is all about fun. Say Bye bye Brown and hello to some sexy vibrancy. Designers were thinking sexy, feeling powerful, and seeing RED and decided to pay homage to Buddha as well with what many designers are calling the Age of ORANGE. One thing to remember though that orange should stay far away from black as possible (until Halloween), but navy blue or camel go very well.

And this fall three quarter sleeves are still here to keep your arms a little warmer. The short-corned sleeves have one really cute detail as well—little pockets. Cashmere anything is definitely a

nice treat. Say goodbye to the hair on the back of your neck standing up because turtlesnecks are back! Finally, I missed them.

If your mind is on accessories, there are a few really functional, sleek and some very cute ones for your hair and body and, of course, your feet. Belts, belts, belts—whether it's a dress, skirts, pants and especially if it's a jacket, belts are the look. If you're getting sick of hugging around your purse, but you still need something to put all your "school" supplies in (i.e. makeup), then the body bag is just what you need. It gives you freedom and style all in one. One really cute trend still with us from last season, are those cute little claw clips, many times shaped as butterflies. The big claw clips are still surviving as well if you want all your hair swept up. Another cute hair accessory is the bandana ring. It works great with short and long hair and looks great with braids and is perfect if you've having a bad hair day. As far as shoes go, one classic with a twist is the boot. The twist is they should be knee high or mid-calf.

But with all these fashion trends, you may ask yourself what in God's name were these designers thinking? You should not even bother trying on some, let alone buying them. One fashion trend I can't stand is the skirt over the pant, otherwise known as the "skant." Maybe if you have an old dress that is too short, you might want to try putting it over a pair of pants, but as far as putting a skirt

over your pants-it looks ridiculous.

One mind boggling, rather bothersome trend for this season is what designers call the "pompint." What it basically is, is cow print. Now, I'm not sure if that was some male designers' idea of trying to be funny, or what. I don't know about any of you, but I would rather be taunted for looking or being as skinty as Kate Moss than someone telling me I look like a cow.

I don't believe anyone will find this print to be flattering. I urge you to stay completely away from cow print for the sake of fashion, self-esteem and for cows everywhere. This is definitely one trend that designers will look back at and ask themselves, "What were we thinking?"

Another reason that I find it mind boggling that "pompint" is a trend right now is because big numbers and prints that accentuate size were bagged. Baggy is out. A perfect example of the new style is

pencil thin pants with a slight flair otherwise known as a bootleg cut.

If you're finding any or all of the season's trends distasteful or just not your style, there's always classic style. Classics, such as leather, are as hot and fashionable as ever, whether it's a jacket or sexy leather pants. Basic black and white is simple and chic as always. There are always cardigans, your basic blue jeans, polo shirts, anything that has a school logo on it (and my personal favorite) baseball caps.

I hope I dropped some good, fun, fashionable knowledge on your butterfly-clip-encased head. So go out, be brave, try something new.

And remember, it doesn't matter whether you got it from Abercrombie or a thrift store (although you can get a lot more creative with the latter), it's all in how you wear it.

So work it, girl!

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The Blazer is a student-run publication. Opinions expressed in the Blazer do not necessarily reflect the views of the faculty or administration.

Come play with the Bike Club

by Stephanie Busbey

There is a new club hitting JJC's Mainstreet, the Bike Club. They're all about having fun outdoors—having barbecues, playing frisbee, hackysack, football, basketball, listening to music, just hanging out, or of course, riding their bikes.

"Bike Club is not just for people who ride bikes. It's for people who like to be outside and have fun," said Aaron Romero, Bike Club president.

They plan to have several barbecues and bike-riding trips, a race at JJC towards the end of the year, and at least one really big biking trip at the end of the year. Where the trip's destination will be depends on how much money they can raise before then.

"The further west, the better, and the more expensive. If we can't afford California, then we'll try for Nevada, Colorado, Dakota, getting closer and closer to Illinois with the less money we have," said Romero.

According to Romero, biking is one of the most hated sports because "we ruin trails. We make it hard for people to walk on trails

because we zoom by them. People try to limit where we can go because of this, but it's not our fault they get in our way."

To protect their image and the environment, Bike Club is considering joining the Imba Bikers Association and T.U.R.F. Imba is a worldwide organization, based in Colorado, that is dedicated to trail maintenance and opening closed trails to "anybody and everybody." T.U.R.F. is a smaller organization that concentrates on opening and maintaining Illinois trails.

"Illinois has some of the fastest closing biking trails. The trails are few to begin with, and they keep getting less and less," Romero said. There are five different kinds of bikers, as defined by Romero: Cyclists, Freestylers, BMXers, Mountain Bikers, and Psychocrossers.

Cyclists ride around on the road, Freestylers do tricks like flipping, spinning, and falling on their heads, BMXers do tricks in the dirt and fall on their head, and Mountain Bikers do a lot of off-road biking downhill, cross-country, around rocks, and into trees. "It's not hard to hit trees, especially if you're going down hill in the mud and your tires don't stop. Trees are not mountain bikers' friends," said Romero.



Bike Club secretary Michelle King, President Aaron Romero, and sponsor Marv Tzidek show off their club mascot Superman hench photo taken by Stephanie Busbey.

Psychocrossers do everything mountain bikers do, only they use thicker tires not designed for the roughbikes they use. Psychocrossing is extremely dangerous because "the bike could fall apart while someone is riding down a hill at 45 mph."

Romero said he started off as

someone "very, very scared" to ride bikes, and didn't become a hardcore biker until after he went to the hospital for not wearing a helmet. Now, he says, "I'm a mountain biker 24/7."

"Aaron says, 'Always wear your helmet,'" Romero adds.

Romero recommends that beginning bikers go to a bike shop to purchase an entry-level bike priced between four hundred and six hundred dollars.

Romero put together his bike party by part himself, using the color scheme of Superman, Bike Club's mascot.

When asked if he loves his bike more than his girlfriend, Romero states, "I don't love my bike more than my girlfriend. My reasoning is that I spend more money on my girlfriend."

Anyone interested in joining Bike Club can contact the sponsor, Marv Tzidek, at 280-2262.

Vegetarian Society to inform JJC about nutrition, ethics

by Stephanie Busbey

The Vegetarian Society, a new club at JJC, looks forward to a productive year.

"Our purpose is to inform and educate people about vegetarian issues, like nutrition and ethics," according to Stephen Higgins, the Vegetarian Society co-founder.

Higgins and co-founder Ryan Dowling recruited 25 people for the Vegetarian Society at mainstreet. They plan to participate in the Annual Chili Cookoff at JJC.

work on a cookbook to sell early next year, and put out a newsletter with stories on vegetarianism or animal rights.

They also plan to get affiliated with the American Vegetarian Society, which publishes a vegetarian newsletter bimonthly. The American Vegetarian Society promotes vegetarianism and speaks out against genetic engineering of plants. Anyone interested in joining the society should contact the sponsor, Fred Ferrara at 280-2529.

*** Police Blotter ***

The following report was issued by JJC Police Chief Steven L. Bennett for the first three weeks of the fall semester:

Vandalism

*Door lock to men's locker room broken, Aug. 23.
*Walls outside G-1013 vandalized. CPD employee suspended for two days.

*Rend Lake Building men's room and ladies' room dry wall

smashed in.

*Racist graffiti found in stall of men's room in G-Building next to fitness center.

Thefts

*Men's wallet stolen from men's locker room, Aug. 23.
*Checkbook stolen, Aug. 24.
*Radar detector stolen from automobile in student Lot 3.

*Portable stereo taken from janitorial room in A-Building, Sept. 8.

*Cell phone stolen from vehicle on campus, Sept. 7.

*Two incidents of money being stolen from men's locker room, Sept. 7.

*Purse stolen from nursing lab, Sept. 7.

*Purse stolen from unknown location on campus, Sept. 7.

*Harassment allegation filed, Sept. 8.

Vet Tech (Continued from Page 1)

On-the-job learning will make up 25 percent of a vet tech student's time.

Students will take part in two internships. During the first, at the beginning of the program, students will focus on learning and practicing vet tech skills.

Near the end of the program, Ethridge said, the students will most likely be placed at vet hospitals where there is potential to be offered jobs after graduation.

Students who complete the two-year program at JJC will receive an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Veterinary Medical Technology and be eligi-

ble to take the national certification exam for veterinary technicians. The program will be accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and is already approved by the State of Illinois.

The average starting salary for vet techs in Illinois is \$24,000.

Vet techs take part in many duties, all under the supervision of a veterinarian. Some of these include: office management, customer relations, surgical assistance, anesthesia administration, prescription preparation, obtaining specimens and performing laboratory tests.

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News

*** News Briefs ***

JJC offers helpful options to acquire transcripts

There are now two new ways for students to order their JJC transcripts. Students may order their transcripts on the Internet or by telephone. Both methods are over secured connections and are designed to respect the student's privacy. The Campus Direct service does not access our students records but serves as a means for obtaining all the necessary information to send out a transcript. Both are also in compliance with FERPA regulations.

Three new records services have also been implemented: overnight FEDEX transcripts, priority mail transcripts and a fax transcript service. Additional fees are imposed for these services.

Multicultural Transfer Center activities

The Multicultural Transfer Center invites students to participate in its many educational activities. A workshop entitled Researching Colleges & Universities On-Line will be presented in the Student Center Sept. 23 and 29 from 8:30-9:15 a.m.

The State University Transfer Fair will be Oct. 4 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the E-concourse. Students will be able to stop and visit the colleges of their choice for information and guidance.

Another workshop, titled

Searching for Scholarships On-Line, will be held in the Student Center Oct. 7 and 12 from 8:30-9:15 a.m.

Also, students wanting to get involved with People Like Me: Recruiting Diversity Program, or the Seventeenth Annual United States Hispanic Leadership Conference should see Angie Kayser, ext. 2537.

The Multicultural Transfer Center encourages students to research scholarship opportunities early. New scholarship information is available in the Multicultural Transfer Center located in the Student Center (D-1010). Students must sign in before taking a scholarship book.

Scholarships offered include ten \$3,000 awards for Illinois State University from the Community College Foundation Scholarship Competition. Requirements include 3.3 on a 4.0 GPA scale.

Bradley University also offers a \$5000 Transfer Excellence Scholarship, renewable each year with a GPA of 3.0 at Bradley. Requirements include a minimum of 45 semester hours of transferable courses by May 1, 2000, with a 3.5 GPA.

Governors State University offers the Latino Achievement Scholarship Program (LASP), which covers FULL TUITION for a maximum of SIX trimesters.

The LASP is a competitive scholarship program open to new students. Preference will be given to applicants who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents, earned a 3.0 GPA, and have Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Latino culture or origin.

Upcoming Presentations

Pianist Winston Choi will present the first of JJC's highly acclaimed Musica Viva recitals for the 1999-2000 season Sunday, Sept. 26 at 3 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theater. A native of Canada and a graduate of the Royal Conservatory of Music of Toronto, Choi recently performed a series of recitals in Shanghai, Beijing, and Hong Kong. Admission is free.

The Fine Arts Department also cordially invites the public to a recital by music students on Wednesday, Sept. 29 at 11 a.m. in the Fine Arts Theatre.

The Hartman Planetarium will be presenting "Solar System Stakeout" Thursday, Sept. 30 at 6:30 p.m.

JJC Police Chief Steve Bennett will be presenting "Community Policing" Friday, Oct. 8 at noon, 1-4006 as part of the Brown Bag lecture series. The public is encouraged to attend all Brown Bag lectures.

Discount cards available

GoodYear VIP Discount Cards, which gives holders savings of 10 percent on all auto service and 5 percent on all GoodYear tires are now available in the Human Resource Center, J-1057, Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The offer is good through Dec. 30, 2000, at GoodYear Auto Service Center, 213 South Bolingbrook Dr., Bolingbrook, IL.

Take Back the Night

Violence against women is an epidemic in Will County and across the country. Join in a march for women who are victims of violence and Take Back the Night at Joliet West High School Oct. 14 at 6 p.m. There will be a guest speaker, Merri Dee, informational tables, food and beverages, commemorative t-shirts and flashlights, and whistles will be sold. Participants will gather in front of the school for a brief program before the symbolic march through the surrounding neighborhood. Flashlights are advisable. Joliet West is located at 401 N. Larkin Ave.

Auto Service Shop open for business

The Automotive Service Technology Shop has more openings for work on employees' vehi-

cles on Friday Sept. 24. The employee is charged for parts and a \$5 service fee in lieu of labor. Light duty work, safety inspections, brake inspections, tire inflation, balance, and repair; exhaust inspection and repair, repair of "broken thing-a-ma-bobs, etc." can all be done.

Anyone interested can call and make an appointment with Chris Bene in the Auto Service Department at 729-9020, ext. 2229.

Adult mentor volunteers needed

The Athletic Mentoring Program is looking for mentor volunteers. This program is designed to provide academic support and encouragement for JJC athletes. Going into its third year now, the program has proven to be effective, with the athletes finding increased academic success and higher rates of retention. Mentors are asked to meet with the assigned student as frequently as possible, discuss the student's academic plan, goals and progress, advise them on resources available at JJC, get to know them on a personal basis, and contact their head coach when the athlete is not meeting their responsibilities. Registration forms are needed by Sept. 24.

Questions? Contact Mark Smith at ext. 2562.

JJC Club News

Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa, a.k.a. Alpha Lambda Phi, is planning a productive, fun-filled year. Activities include a college-wide Euchre Tournament and an Ice Cream Social at the end of September. They will be holding the Euchre Tournament Sept. 24, with sign-up time starting at 1 p.m. First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded. The Ice Cream Social will be held at the Student Center Sept. 29 and 30 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

In May, children's booklets were sent to all 57 Phi Theta Kappa Chapters in Illinois as a project for their Service Marksmen, and they have invited the Honorable Governor Ryan to come and sign a proclamation with JJC President J.D. Ross.

PTK participates every year in a reading program with JJC's Daycare Center. They have members read for 15-minute intervals from 8 a.m. - Noon to read to the children, which has been a big help to the Daycare Center. Anyone interested in helping can contact Margaret Tyler at (815) 467-5832 or e-mail her at: Myler2734@aol.com.

PTK has a new web page with upcoming events, by-laws, its history, an America Reads page with the top 100 reading list, service

hours, and scholarship information.

Check it out on the web at <http://www.jjc.cc.il.us/event>.

The Fall Orientation meeting will be held Oct. 5, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. in room J-0006, and Oct. 6th 12:30-2:30 p.m. in C-2602, and 5-7 p.m. in J-0006.

Honors Program

The Honors Program invites the public to its first colloquium to see a slide presentation entitled "The Earth Viewed from Space" Monday, Sept. 27, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., in the Fine Arts Theater. Over 300,000 photos of earth have been taken from various NASA space missions. Presenter William J. Daley, geographer/climatologist for the NASA/Hernandez Educational Outreach Program, is currently involved in editing these photos for NASA.

The photographs taken from space will allow those present to enjoy a magnificent perspective of the Earth's geographical, geological, environmental, meteorological, and oceanographic phenomena.

The Honors Program is also having its first satellite seminar of the semester Tuesday, Oct. 5 in T-3011, presented by Mark Anderson, the honors director at State University of New York

College at Brockport. The topic for this year's seminar program is "The New Millennium: The Past as Prologue," and includes five live, interactive C-band video teleconferences on the topic.

The Oct. 5 presentation will introduce the satellite seminar and establish a framework for understanding the millennial fears and hopes associated with the year 2000.

A general overview of the traditional apocalyptic beliefs will be given, and social and religious behavior around the year 1000 C.E. and in the millennial movements of nineteenth century America will be examined.

Particular attention will be focused on the Y2K problem; the fragmentation of religious behavior in cults and new age movements; the exploitation of millennial anxieties by corporations and the mass media; the fate of social, cultural, and religious aspirations in a world where television turns everything into spectacle; and the way in which technological changes, especially those associated with digital revolution, are altering not only our ideas of community, but our conception of reality and truth.

Anyone with questions or comments can contact Pete Neff at ext. 2731.

Holistic Wellness

The Holistic Wellness Department is sponsoring environmental wellness activities during the month of September.

The purpose of the month is to encourage environmental wellness which is one facet of entire wellness.

Tuesday, Sept. 22, Noon-1 p.m. in J-0006 "Feng Shui: Harmony in the Environment" will be presented by Margo Dummelle of Harmony Feng Shui.

Feng Shui (pronounced Feng Shway) is the ancient Chinese art of placement. Over 4,000 years old, Feng Shui was originally used to site graves, houses, and villages. It addresses the principles of safety, power, and harmony. It is fundamentally a spiritual practice, derived from the I-Ching, and uses the same Five Element theory that Chinese medicine does (fire, wood, earth, metal, and water). Feng Shui can be practical, symbolic, or spiritual.

On a practical level, Feng Shui is the adjustment of the flow of energy (chi) within a space by the arrangement of interior decor. When the house "chi" freely circulates, the result is a safe, healthy, love-filled, and prosperous home.

The month began with a collaboration with the Natural Sciences Department and participa-

tion in the Ecological Restoration Project on the 17 and nature walk the 20.

Peers Promoting Wellness will be working on a campus clean-up on Sept. 24. Questions and comments should be directed to Pam Dilday, ext. 2202.

Graphology Club

The Graphology Club invites the public to come see Brother George Searle's "Influences to Achievement" Friday, Oct. 1 at 7 p.m. in B-1002. He will point out indicators to potential areas of achievement found in handwriting.

Nursing Association

The Nursing Student Association is sponsoring a speaker on domestic violence, Amy Fredricks of Groundworks, Thursday, Sept. 23 from 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. in C-2008.

All are welcome.

Soccer Club

Interested in playing soccer? You can join the Soccer Club in practice at the YMCA on Hobbs Rd. Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:30 - 6 p.m. For additional information, contact Chris Trillo at 280-2465.

Ambassadors

Join the Ambassadors at their next meeting, on Sept. 28 at 2 p.m. in the Cyber Cafe.

Laugh, cry at 'Marvin's Room'

by Heather Lawson and
Stephanie Busbey

The Joliet Junior College Fine Arts Department will present *Marvin's Room* Oct. 7-9 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 10 at 2:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theatre. Written by Scott McPherson, *Marvin's Room* is the humorous, moving story of one woman's commitment to loving others first, even as the faces her own death.

The cast includes Amy Soth of Orland Park; Kristine Umniks of Lockport; Kim Hitt of Diamond; Eric Yankee of Braidwood; Christopher Bachmann of Manhattan; Katie Trotter of Coal City; Rob Culp of Chanannah; Sally Broadhurst of Frankfort; Joe Hassert of Romeoville; Nick Simon of Joliet; Devin O'Brien of Bolingbrook; Lukas Lentz of Romeoville; Molly Lawrence of Crest Hill and Jenny Cox of Joliet. Eugene Gaskin of Joliet is the stage manager, and Kristin Watson of Joliet and Stacey Bowie of

Bolingbrook are assistant stage managers. The production is directed by Dr. Zachary Bloomfield and designed by Nicki Blowers.

"We have 14 people in the show and at least that many backstage as well, veterans and rookies," said Bloomfield. "It's pretty much evenly split between new people and people who have been around for awhile. It's reassuring to know you'll never run out of people."

Ticket prices are \$3 for the general public, \$2 for senior citizens and students and \$1 for children under age twelve. Additional discounts are available for JJC students, faculty and staff.

Audience members are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to the production where they may be exchanged for items at the concession table. All contributions will be donated to area shelters. For reservations call 280-2200.

Season tickets for the '99-'00

performances of the JJC Fine Arts Department are now available. This season's plays include *Marvin's Room*, "All My Sons" by Arthur Miller, which reveals the devastating experience of two families when a manufacturer decides to look away rather than to risk losing a profitable contract during WWII; "Drama Yankers," an amusing and touching musical fantasy best known for the song "Heart"; and last, but not least, "Steel Magnolias," a Southern comedy that's filled with passion.

When you subscribe, you save 33 percent over the single ticket price for each show. You will also receive preferred seating, ticket exchange and replacement, a special reception and two issues of the Subscriber Newsletter.

The cost is \$10 for the general public, \$6 for senior citizens and JJC faculty, staff, and non-JJC students, and \$3 for all JJC students. For more info on the event call 280-2200.



Sally Richards, Amy Soth and Kristine Umniks rehearse for JJC's production "Marvin's Room."

photo courtesy of Community Relations

Mighty Fine Artwork

Joliet Junior College Fine Arts Department presents *'Mighty Fine Artwork'* featuring the artwork of five M.F.A. students from ISU. The gallery exhibit runs through Oct. 1 in the Laura A. Sprague Gallery located on the second floor of J Building.

Photos taken by Shane Lindsay



Students offered credit advice

by Nina Darguzis

Swamped by credit card offers and being buried in bills is what it means to be a college student, and it's just part of managing your personal finances, right? It doesn't have to be. At least that's what the United States Student Association (USSA) says.

The USSA is an association that has dedicated its time to helping college students with financial education. They work in collaboration with MasterCard trying to teach what it means to manage

finances because credit records will affect a cardholder's life.

From future loan agents, landlords and possibly jobs, credit reflects upon a student's future as much as college itself.

Some tips to get you started:

*Create a budget so you'll know what you can afford.

*Pay your bill on time, every month.

*Simple Rule: If you can't afford it, don't charge it.

*Always pay more than the minimum due or pay off the bal-

ance entirely.

*Interest charges are always added when your bill is not paid in full.

Anthony Samu, president of the USSA, added, "I hope that in addition to reinforcing sound money management messages on campus that we will erase the notion that adult college students are naive and irresponsible."

Any students interested in additional information can go to <http://www.creditalk.com> or call Mark Lewis at 202-736-1640.

'Playing By Heart' speaks from the heart

by Nina Darguzis

"Playing By Heart" is a brilliant, moving film with a cast including everyone and their mother. This movie is a new release on video that was slammed by the critics back when it hit theaters—heck, I don't even remember it in the theaters—but let me tell you how wrong the critics were.

I think the critics' problem was that this film is categorized as a romantic comedy, but it's not "His, His" funny.

There are a few "jokes" that make you chuckle, but it's not "My Best Friend's Wedding." It's far deeper than that. In comparison, Julia Roberts is as deep as a frisbee.

The film focuses on six very different couples and the problems each of the characters have with intimacy. Each couple is connected to one another, and for the majority of the movie, it's an amazing game to figure out how.

If you're not into the whole deep storyline—or relationships want to make you wretch—then see it for your favorite actors/actresses like Gillian Anderson, John Stewart, Ryan Phillips, Sean Connery, Angelina Jolie, Jay Mohr, Gene Rowlands, or Denis Quaid. Find out who gets paired with who, or just ogle at them for the two-hour running time. Aren't they worth it?

No, this isn't an action-packed movie. Sorry, no aliens. Yes, it's mainly conversations and talking... but here may be the clincher: somebody dies, there's a wedding, a drug queen, a bunch of martinis and a huge honking dog. And if you've ever been in or been hurt by a relationship, this movie is for

you.

Okay, so it may be classified as a "chick flick," but check it out. Guys, your girlfriends will be impressed by your sensitivity, and it's a relatively cheap date (you'll pay a max price of maybe \$3). Next time, boys, I promise a movie more geared toward you.

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CD Reviews

Under the scope: new music rated and reviewed

Dixie Chicks

"Fly"

Rating: *** 1/4

The most anticipated country album of the year is out, and has proven to be worth the wait.

The Dixie Chicks' "Fly" will sell millions of units, and will deserve them. The "Chicks" still speak in fluent twang as they avoid the mainstream vacuum that has captured Shania, Faith, and other country counterparts.

"Fly" attempts to carry the same level of emotion that their debut album (*Wide Open Spaces*) packed. However, the emotion on this album is happier rather than heartache.

As a result, the ballads on this album don't come near those on "Wide..." That's not to say that they are not good. "Cowboy Take Me Away" is musically superior to most of the first album's ballads. "Without You" is also effective.

This song does not feed us the typical "without you, I can't go on, I can't eat or think, etc." exhausted ideas. Instead, the chorus begins, "Without you, I'm not okay." This is incredibly effective and "affective."

It is very real and very emotional. There is nothing that hits me like a girl who says "no" when you ask her if she's okay.

The closing track, "Let Him Fly," is absolutely beautiful. But the biggest surprise is so infectious that you ignore that Natalie Maines struggles to hold on to a note. She is not the most technically sound lead singer in the universe, but she is one of the most fun.

She gives extra life to the hilarious "Goodbye Earl" with all kinds of appalling comments. The song is about an abused wife who does away with her husband (sounds hilarious, huh).

"Sin Wagon" is another chance for her to be sexy and an opportunity for Martie (fiddle, viola) and Emily (sax, lap steel, dobro) to flex some musical muscle. The picking here is fabulous.

Natalie strikes again with this gem: "Do a little matinee dancing..." that's right, I said matinee dancing! The package includes exotic pictures of the girls in all kinds of interesting situations and they even tank their "fly" tonies.

They just keep getting more interesting. This looks like chapter two of a long lasting and wonderful phenomenon.

-Review by Matt Packard

The Donnas

"Get Skintight"

Rating: *** 1/2

The Donnas' second album is considered punk, but it plays more like unpolished "hair" metal. In a rather "watered-down" world of music, this good ol' rock and roll is a breath of fresh air.

I swear that I wrote most of these lyrics when I was in fifth grade. Had I written some of these lyrics, such as the raunchy "Well Done" (Gimme some of your meat...)

You're lookin' good, I think I'm ready to eat! I might have been grounded. But what they lack poetically, they more than make up for with spark.

The Motley Crue and Ratt influence pour out of the driving guitar of Donna R. Lead singer, Donna A., sounds like Belinda Carlisle after a few beers (that's a good sound) and Donna C. and Donna F. provide the rhythm on drums and bass, respectively.

They play songs about partying, boys, and "doin' donuts" on a neighbor's lawn. They are often funny and always fun. Besides, we all dig girls with guitars.

-Review by Matt Packard

Music Ratings:

***** - Buy it today!!

**** - A fan favorite

*** - Good Tunes

** - Not worth your \$15

* - Not worth the wax

Christina Aguilera

Self Titled

Rating: *** 1/2

Whether she's here to stay or here for now, Christina's debut album is a keeper.

Her forte is dance. The single "Genie in a Bottle" and cymbal heavy, danceable "What a Girl Wants" will keep your party moving.

The most persuasive dance number in the album is the bouncy "Come on Over." The bassline is similar to the Grease classic "Summer Lovin'" and it spreads a nostalgic eighties feeling. Most of her album is similar to Brandy's R&B songs, both musically and

vocally.

But, Christina is at her best when she bares her soul and lets her voice roam.

She emulates her hero, Mariah Carey, quite well. "Reflection" is the disc's highlight. She displays range and vocal command that would have been nice to hear throughout the project.

Most of the lyrics are trite (although "obvious" is well written by Heather Holly), but that is to be expected these days. The music behind the pop star is unimaginative (for the most part), but well produced and well placed.

In the kingdom of bubblegum pop, Christina Aguilera could be the next queen, but she deserves to take herself more seriously.

-Review by Matt Packard

Film festival offers 'an excuse to watch good movies'

by Stephanie Busbey

An International Film Forum is being offered free of charge dealing with minority American culture as well as foreign culture. Open to students as well as community members, there will be two showings of each film Wednesdays at 3 p.m. and Thursdays at 7 p.m. in room D-2022.

The next film, "The Green Wall," will be shown Sept. 29 and Sept. 30, and the following film, "Powwow Highway," will be shown Oct. 13 and Oct. 14.

The forum is run by Susan Sink and Roxanne Munch, both

instructors of English. They came up with the idea of the forum to give their students of Minority American Literature and Non-Western Literature a better idea of the cultures they learn about.

"Also, the forum is an excuse to see some good films. We don't have a regular film program here, so we wanted to start one," said Sink.

The forum's film schedule alternates between foreign films and minority American films. The minority American films are actually mainstream films that were in the theatres, according to Sink. These

foreign films have English subtitles.

"It's better to hear the actor's real voices. Some people think (English subtitles) are a bad thing, but those who watch films think it's a good thing," Sink explained.

"The Green Wall," set in Peru, is in Spanish with English subtitles and is about homesteading in the Amazon. A family leaves the city and starts farming in the jungle. The family deals with tragedy and living in a primitive place.

Each film will be shown in its entirety and will be followed by a brief discussion. Refreshments will

be served when possible. To encourage faculty to offer extra credit points or tie the films to assignments, students who attend the entire viewing of the film will be given a slip of paper that shows

they were there. Look for flyers or future Blazer articles for the rest of the forum's schedule. Anyone with questions or comments should contact Sink at 280-2598, and Munch at 280-2471.

Walking down
Mainstreetphotos taken by
Lorraine Guerrero

Above: JJC Students Matt Ridings and Brian Wheeler chill with QJB's 145.
Right: Student Trancee Jim McFarland talks with a student by his table

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Features

Rialto lineup sure to entice

by Amy Lakeberg

The line-up at the Rialto Square Theatre is sure to interest students at JJC this fall.

Besides the traditional country music and comedy shows, the Rialto will also sponsor the Superstars of Wrestling Halloween Bash '99 at Joliet Central High School, according to Beverly Williams, outreach coordinator for the Rialto.

This WWF bash will be held Saturday, Oct. 9 at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$19, \$15, \$10, or \$6.

For country fans, Deana Carter is playing at the theatre on Sunday, Oct. 3 for a 6 p.m. show. Sawyer Brown is also performing a Saturday, Dec. 17 Christmas show at 8 p.m. In the past, the Rialto has hosted some of the biggest country stars before they became big names. One of these acts was country superstar Rita McEnire.

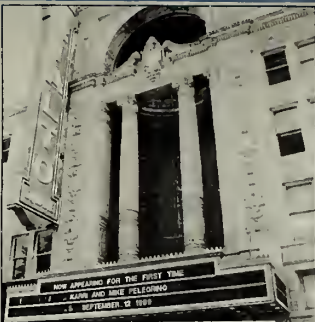
Aside from country shows, comedy acts this fall include big names: Jeff Dunham and Howie Mandell. Dunham is the only two-time winner of the prestigious "Ventriologist of the Year" award and was named the "1997 Funniest Male Stand Up Comic" by The American Comedy Awards. Dunham, comedian and ventriloquist, will be performing Saturday, Oct. 2 at 8 p.m. All tickets for this show are \$22. Howie Mandel will be performing Friday, Oct. 8 at 8 p.m., and ticket prices can be \$41.50, \$36.50, or \$31.50. Also, The Rialto Comedy Club will feature Todd Yohn, Skip Gripparis and Monica Carter on Saturday, Dec. 4.

In the past, comedians such as Bill Cosby have performed at the Rialto. Usually the Rialto does not attain such famous people, but "Bill Cosby is an exception," said Williams. Carrot Top has also per-

formed at the Rialto, and before Jerry Seinfeld had his own TV show, he too once performed as a stand-up comedian at the Rialto, Williams said.

The Rialto also attracts the younger audience this fall. If you plan taking out a younger family member to the Rialto, do not miss "Winnie the Pooh" on Sunday, Nov. 14 at 2 p.m. Unfortunately, the "Berenstein Bears Live" show has been canceled, but in place of it is the New York production "The Little Mermaid," showing Sunday, Oct. 17 at 2 p.m.

Tickets ordered by phone may be purchased from TicketMaster at (312)-902-1500, or the Rialto Ticket Office at 726-6650. Direct ticket purchases may be made at all TicketMaster outlets or the Rialto Ticket Office, which is located at 102 N. Chicago St., in Joliet's City Center.



Joliet's Rialto Theatre will showcase several varied shows this season. The Rialto is located in downtown Joliet.

picture taken by Shane Lindsay

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Spirit team coach Pam Elbridge watches as the girls perfect their routines.

photo taken by Lorraine Guerrero

Looking Back

Injured pitcher leads Lady Wolves

by Mike Oliveri

Despite a sprained ankle, Wolves softball pitcher Dawn Glasscock led her team to a second place finish in the NJCAA Division III National Tournament in Annapolis, Md., last May.

After two wins the first day — defeating Rochester, Minn. 7-0 and Anne Arundel 2-0 — the Lady Wolves opened the finals by defeating Orange County, N.Y. 2-1 and Delta, Mich., Community College 9-1. Delta rallied in the final game, however, defeating the Wolves 3-0.

Glasscock, a right-handed pitcher from Lockport High School, struck out four, walked one and allowed eight hits in the Orange County game. In the first Delta game, she set a new, single-game tournament record with an incredible 13 strikeouts, allowing only two hits and three walks.

In the final Delta game, Glasscock punched out 11 players, walked one and gave up three hits. Two of those three hits, however, were home runs.

"She is the most dominant player I have ever coached," softball coach Jack Smith said of his star pitcher. Smith has coached the team for seven years.



JJC's pitcher Dawn Glasscock

photo courtesy: Athletic Dept.

Glasscock concluded the season with a 28-15 record, tallying 329 strikeouts and 14 shutouts. Her JJC career totals 553 strikeouts, 47 victories, and 20 shutouts.

Following the tournament, Glasscock, shortstop Krystal Himes and third baseman Lisa Gierich were named to the all-tournament team. The Lady Wolves set a JJC single-season record for victories, finishing at 33-23. They accomplished an 8-2 record in the postseason and a 5-2 record at the national tournament.

"Could I be any prouder of what the girls have done this season?" Smith asked himself. "No way. They were unbelievable, on and off the field."

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Sports

Wolves football tackles 50th year

by Mike Oliveri

Look close and you'll see a new patch on the Wolves' jerseys this year as they take to the gridiron of Joliet Memorial Stadium.

While JJC nears its Centennial in 2001, the Wolves football team will celebrate its Golden Anniversary this season. The patch, designed by Head Coach Matt Kalb, commemorates both the team's history and the school's rapidly-approaching 100th anniversary.

"We are extremely proud to be celebrating our 15th year of playing football here at Joliet Junior College," said Director of Athletics and 1997 football head coach Wayne King. "We hope to have it for another 50 years, too."

In those 50 years, the Wolves have seen their fair share of ups and downs.

The team started small, but accomplished a big 1 record in its first season in 1950, under the guidance of Head Coach Herm Walser.

Jack Ostrem, an offensive tackle, linebacker, and captain of that first team, remembers those early days: "We had something like 27 players that first year. Everybody played both sides (offense and defense)."

In the team's history, it has seen 11 different coaches. After nine years of service, Walser handed off to Gil Bell, who would later move on to become a Director of



JJC Football coach Matt Kalb
photo courtesy Athletic Dept.

Athletics at JJC. Jerry Yost, the team's winningest coach, took over in the fall of 1968. Under Yost's 16 seasons of leadership, the Wolves won 97 games and either won or shared seven conference championships.

Kalb took the helm of the team last year, when the Wolves wrapped the season with a 5-4 record.

A number of Kalb's players ranked high in NAC stats, most notably Madell Peters, who led the conference in individual rushing with 81 carries for 439 yards, and Jason Fleming, topping the chart with the most sacks at six.

Perhaps a reflection on the growth of the school, the team has grown to 67 players strong, more

than doubling in size since Walser's Wolves first took the field.

The Wolves have seen four championship games in their half-century of battles, starting with the Little Rose Bowl in 1951.

They may have lost the game, but it was a tremendous accomplishment for a team only two years old.

The Wolves then competed in the inaugural Midwest Bowl in 1974. JJC hosted Minnesota's Normandale Community College at Joliet Memorial Stadium in that contest.

The game proved to be the Wolves' only loss that season.

The Wolves did not allow a second opportunity to slip through their fingers, however, and they defeated another Minnesota school, Rochester Community College, 37-14 in the 1976 Midwest Bowl. In that game, the ferocious Wolves racked up seven turnovers and six quarterback sacks.

The last time the team saw a bowl game was the 1981 Royal Crown Cola Bowl in Cedar Falls, Iowa. The Wolves posted a 10-2 record that season.

Several notable people have been Wolves in the past, including a former mayor of Joliet. The late John Bourg was the Wolves' quarterback in 1950 and 1951. Playing alongside Bourg were Bob Brophy, a past Joliet Fire Chief, and Tom Streitz, a local dentist for over 40



The Wolves' 50th Anniversary commemorative patch designed by head coach Matt Kalb.
photo taken by Lorraine Cuervo

years. Dr. John Hertko, a board trustee for JJC District 525, was a lineman for the Wolves. He earned second-team all-American honors in 1972.

The Wolves have had several players earn National Junior College Athletic Association all-American first-team selections. Lineman Vernon Voss made the cut in the fall of 1963, followed by tight end Craig Phelan in 1974.

Two years later, both defensive back/running back Jerry Washington and linebacker Don "Fuzzy" Thurston were honored. In 1977, NJCAA All-American running back Harold "The Glider" Brown was elected to the NJCAA Football Hall of Fame.

A 1982 NJCAA All-American,

tight end Casper "Cap" Boso, went on to play two years of football at the University of Illinois in Champaign before playing for the Chicago Bears. He was the first of two Wolves to join the NFL professional ranks.

The second, 1989-90 receiver Derrell Mitchell, is currently a wide receiver for the Chicago Bears. Mitchell scored 19 touchdowns and caught 90 passes for 1,318 yards during his JJC football career.

It has been a rich and varied 50 years for the Wolves, and only time will tell what the next 50 years has in store for them. But regardless of their record, they will always belong to JJC, and the school will always be proud to have them

Rough season spikes Lady Wolves

by Mike Oliveri

Following four matches and their first tournament, the Lady Wolves volleyball team stands at a record of 1-9.

They were shut out in their season opener at Waubesa Community College on Sept. 2, then traveled to the Parkland Tournament on the 3rd and 4th. The Wolves

managed two wins out of the total 14 games played, defeating Kishwaukee and Catonsville once each, but lost the overall tournament.

Standing at 0-7, the ladies brought South Suburban College under their den on Sept. 7 to secure their first win, going 15-13, 9-15,

15-11, and 15-5 in the four-game match. OHSAA JoAnna Chesharek and OH Beeky Gemmer led the team with 8 kills, and S Jodi Kettman was close behind with 7.

The following day the team hosted the College of DuPage, their first match-up within the NAC division, for a five-game match.

They opened the series with two wins, but COD rallied to defeat the ladies in the last three games to take the match. Chesharek again led her team in kills at 12, and Kettman tallied 10 kills and 35 assists.

With an overall record of 1-8, the ladies traveled to face the Judson junior varsity team in yet

another five-game match on the 9th, their third match in a row. Once again they took two of the games, leaving the other three to Judson.

1-9, the ladies rested for four days prior to traveling to Kankakee Community College on the 14th and Triton Community College on the 15th. Unfortunately, they lost both games.

On Sept. 18 the ladies went to the South Suburban Tournament, facing Lake Michigan, Black Hawk, and Carl Sandburg Colleges in two games each.

The Lady Wolves were shut out of the tournament. Going into their match against Rock Valley on the 22nd, the ladies stand at 1-12.

45-35 loss to Harper College puts crimp in Wolves' season

by Mike Oliveri

The Wolves opened their fifth season with a dominating 41-20 victory over Rock Valley Community College on Sept. 4, but fell 14-6 to the College of DuPage and 45-35 to Harper College in the following weeks.

This sets the Wolves record at 1-2 overall and 1-2 within their conference, which also includes Grand Rapids Community College in Michigan, Rock Valley, COD, and Harper College. The Wolves will travel to Michigan Saturday, Sept. 25, to meet Grand Rapids CC.

The season opener went strong for the Wolves, who opened the game with a 62-yard kick return by freshman cornerback Eric Gardner. That initial touchdown set the pace of the game, in which the Wolves tallied a total of 448 yards against the Eagles. Freshman tailback Terrance Banks accounted for a full fourth of those yards at 112 on 20 carries, scoring two touchdowns in the process.

On defense, freshman linebacker Asha Robertson shattered the Eagles' offensive line to make six quarterback sacks.

However, whatever fueled the Wolves' thirst for blood in that first game seems to have abandoned them.

On Sept. 11, the Wolves went up the road to Glen Ellyn to tackle COD, only to find themselves on defense through much of the game.

Their only touchdown in the 14-6 loss was scored by safety Nick Meents on a three yard pass interception.

The following week the Wolves hosted Harper College's Hawks for the home opener. The offense tallied 443 yards and gave away only one interception, but the defense was off the pace, resulting in the 45-35 loss.

After the Michigan trip, the Wolves will have a shot at a rematch against COD, this time facing them at home on Oct. 2. On Oct. 9, they go to Palatine for a second game against Harper College, and then host Rock Valley at home on Oct. 16.

The wolf is a ferocious and tenacious animal that does not like to lose; perhaps on these rematches the Wolves will recapture the feral hunger of their namesakes.

Upcoming Games

Wolves Football	Lady Wolves Volleyball	Lady Wolves Tennis
September 25 Grand Rapids C.C. Away: 1:00 p.m.	September 28 Harper College Away: 7:00 p.m.	September 22 Lake County Away: 2:30 p.m.
October 2 College of DuPage Home: 7:00 p.m.	September 30 Lake Island College Home: 6:00 p.m.	September 24-25 ITA Regional Tourney at DuPage- Time TBA
October 9 Harper College Away: 1:00 p.m.	October 5 Illinois Valley C.C. Home: 7:00	September 28 Illinois Valley C.C. Away: 3:00 p.m.

Help Wanted:

The Blozier is looking for a few good people who are interested in sports writing. If so, contact Sports Editor Mike Oliveri or Editor Stephanie Busbey at 280-2313, or EXT. 2313 if on campus.

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Bomb threat causes JJC evacuation

by Craig S. Harju, Jr.

On Sept. 24, 1999, at approximately 11:30 a.m., staffers, staff members and faculty were asked to leave the school and walk in the school parking lots. This was no drill, but a bomb threat.

Dr. Alan Hardersen, vice president for Student Services, and Steven Bennett, chief of Campus Police, said the threat came in to the southwest during mid-morning and the operator took "appropriate actions following procedures" while handling the call. Campus police and the Joliet

Police Department were notified.

"They responded well to our call for assistance, and they augmented our department," said Bennett. This was the first bomb threat that either Hardersen or Bennett have heard of at JJC in "eight or nine years."

Only after a thorough sweep of main campus, north campus and the city center turned up nothing were student, staff and faculty allowed to reenter the building.

JJC Campus Police will continue to investigate the bomb threat, and any students who have

information that may help in the investigation are strongly urged to contact Bennett at extension 9030. Campus police will follow up any leads given to them.

JJC President J.D. Ross said that the school is taking the threat very seriously.

"If [we find] the person who did it [made the threat], we plan to pursue it as full as possible, depending on who's involved," said JJC President J.D. Ross. "If it's a student, we're going to use the full power of the student code of conduct. If it's an employee

we'll address it through our employee policies and if it came [from] outside the institution, then we'll pursue it through the legal system. We may pursue it through the legal system regardless of who did it, but we will pursue it. This is beyond a prank."

Ross, Bennett and Hardersen all praised students, staff and faculty members for responding so well to the evacuation during peak time at all three campuses. Joliet Police Department also stated it was the smoothest evacuation they ever observed.

Student housing options discussed

by Stephanie Busbey

On-campus student housing possibilities for JJC students are currently being discussed. If and when the Board approves the proposal currently being worked on, then the project will be open for bid.

For now, "this is something that we believe needs to be researched further," said Dr. Alan Hardersen, Vice President for Student Services, who is on the Building and Housing Committee.

Student housing could benefit both the college as well as the students in many ways if the options being discussed are implemented.

Phases for student tenants that could be included in this plan include a possible clubhouse with a pool, volleyball and tennis courts, a computer lab, coordination with existing on-campus food services options, assistance with utility and rent deposits, and coordination of summer programming housing needs.

Also, part of the project could include parking for the tenants, which means they would not have to park in the school's parking lot, which makes for a better parking situation for everyone.

Some of the things that the college may require from the different companies that will bid on



Century Development submitted this computer-generated drawing of the student housing facilities that JJC is considering. Century Development is one of the companies who plans on bidding for the student housing project once it is approved by the Board.

This project include no capital investment or financial obligation by JJC, with the company designing, constructing, furnishing, financing, managing, and maintaining the project. JJC would be responsible for any operating losses, if any, from the project, and the project would have full property and liability insurance, with JJC

being indemnified against any claims.

Also, "a significant amount of funds would be provided to the college for the privilege of entering into the partnership if approved by the board," said Hardersen. This "significant amount of funds" could be used for "a multitude of things, including hiring additional

faculty, adding new courses, a footbridge, and a lot of things that in the regular budget we couldn't do," said Hardersen.

And as if this deal seems to be too good to be true already, after the 30 to 40 year contract would run out, the company would donate the facilities back to the college.

See "Student housing" on Page 3

Vet-Tech building to house IMT courses

by Stephanie Busbey

The 16,000-square-foot Vet-Tech building currently under construction will house Industrial Maintenance Technology (IMT) program courses as well as the Veterinary Technicians program.

According to Jeff Bradford, IMT program coordinator and instructor, there are currently 10 classes running in the program. The Industrial Maintenance Technology program has grown considerably in the past three years since Bradford was hired to run the program, starting out with no running classes and growing to 10.

Students who go through the program can expect to learn, among other things, how to work with hydraulics, electronics, mechanical power transmission,

pumps, and electric motors, and how to put in piping. Traditionally, people would train for and become a master of one specific area, such as pipefitting. Bradford sees that kind of approach as "very limiting" by today's standards.

"The companies are looking for a jack of all trades, master of none," said Bradford. "They're looking for very well-rounded people."

Bradford helped develop the IMT program three years ago by organizing an advisory board of 16 different companies' managers and business owners to find out what the ideal potential employee should be able to do. The program's name was also changed from Process Operation Technology to Industrial Maintenance Technology as a

result of this committee.

Typically, Bradford believes that people think the IMT program is for people who want to get involved in janitor or custodial work. However, this is not the case. Students who earn air certificates in Applied Science or Certificates of Achievement, or Certificates of completion should be able to do a multitude of things, including showcasing equipment and keeping equipment running. People who have those skills can save companies thousands of dollars, according to Bradford.

For example, Bradford experienced this first hand at Caterpillar when the air compressor broke down. The air compressor controlled all of the other mechanical processors, and so when it broke,

the entire plant was unable to operate. Later he found that the air compressor shutting down cost the company half a million dollars in profit.

In my classes, students are actually applying geometry and trigonometry," Bradford states. "People in the IMT program are sometimes labeled as a bunch of knuckle-dragging people, but that's not the case at all."

Currently, different classes are being held in T-building, as well as at off-campus sites in Grundy County, Joliet Central, and in Romeville.

"It'll be nice to have this new building. It'll be adjusted more to what I'm doing, and it'll be good to bring the off-campus classes back to the campus," Bradford said.

Opinion

Bubble gum pop doesn't always leave a bad taste

Bubble gum is sweet, sticky and delicious. It is craved by kids and can be a treat. The words "bubble gum" conjure up fun and yummy connotations. Yet when we think of the phrase "bubble gum pop," a bad taste is left in our collective minds.

I believe that I have a well educated and matured music taste, along with a varied one. I like almost all kinds of music and am open-minded about musical art. Then why did an enormous wave of shame come over me the other day when I turned on the irreplaceable MTV watched the entire new video by the Backstreet Boys, and realized that I liked the song? Their newest single is "Larger Than Life," a new wave-esque song with a catchy techno beat and simple lyrics. Okay, okay, I have to admit it isn't a work of musical genius, but do I have to cover in humility if I am caught singing it?

My 14-year-old brother thinks so. He came in the room while I was watching it and stopped dead in his tracks and threw his school bag on the floor. "What the hell are you doing?" He was agast.

"I like this song," I said. "What's the big deal?" Since he gets most of his musical choices from me (he only owns one CD that I don't like), this threw a mon-

From the recesses

by Carole Sharwarko



key wrench in his emulation of me.

"The big deal is that it's the (grin) Backstreet Boys."

"This really bothered me. I had to sit him down and explain. Just because something doesn't necessarily fit in your genre of music doesn't mean you need to totally dismiss it from your choice list. I'm not going to run out and buy the album, but I can like the song if I want to."

Pop music is a strange thing. It is constantly berated for being empty, lacking talent and meaning. I pose this question: Does all music have to mean something? The origins of music in religion all had meaning, but not everything that followed.

Why do we have to be depressed by lyrics all the time? I'm all for despondent Seattle grunge rock (I happen to be in love with Eddie Vedder), but sometimes I don't feel like crying. Sometimes I don't feel like feeling anything. Yeah, that's it. You can use pop

music as an auditory Novocaine.

Now, I admit that some pop is bad. In fact, some is downright intolerable. But do we have to be so close-minded sometimes that we can't even take the time to discern between the two? I like watching MTV to see what the new musical trend is in order to be somewhat 'hip.'

"...one of the most beloved, meaningful bands of all time, The Beatles, started out as 'meaningless pop artists.'"

I don't want to limit myself in any way. Save knowing what it's like to kill someone or beat them up. Those are things I don't want to know about—but I digress. What I'm trying to say is that you never know until you try.

A wise man once said, "And if you hold on tight, do what you think is your thing. You may find you're missing all the rest." I'm

proud of all of you who have found your sense of identity. It's good if you have a personal style. But don't be so concentrated on maintaining it that you forget there are different kinds of things in the world.

Consider my friend and colleague Matt Packard, music reviewer for the Blazer. He has possibly the most diverse taste in music I've ever encountered, as indicated by his variety of reviews. He has found so much musical art that brings him pleasure and is a happy person for it. (Props, Pac-Man)

My last point, and maybe my most solid one, is money. Boy bands like Backstreet, N'Sync and 98 degrees bring in millions of dollars.

These guys are ralling it, and more power to them. If someone offered to give me voice lessons, teach me how to dance and pay me millions to do it all on stage in front of thousands of boys screaming my name and holding up signs that say "I love you, Camle," um, I think I'd do it.

Maybe. Yeah, I'd do it in a second. If any of you out there are say-

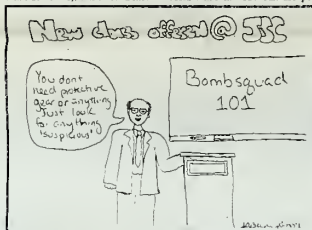
ing, "I'd never do that. I'd never sell out and give up my dignity," then I applaud your moral conviction, but behind your back I'm laughing. This is the real world. I'm not superficial, but I like money. I'd like to have enough money to go to the university of my choice, buy my mom a house, buy my dad a Winnebago, and do it all while traveling the world.

Dude, sorry Britney Spears. I wouldn't get breast implants to sell more records. That's just sick. Someone needs to ground her and send her to bed without dinner because she barely just crawled out of the sandbox and shouldn't be a sex symbol.

So, long live pop. If this stuff brings so much joy to so many pitiful, insecure, lousy scums in America, good for them, and I hope the Backstreet Boys don't see the same one of New Kids on the Block, one of my absolute favorites when I was twelve. (Who was your favorite kid? Mine was Joe. C'mon, girls, you know you all had one, admit it.) Who knows, maybe it could develop into something more musically sound.

Keep this in mind, lest you forget that one of the most beloved, meaningful bands of all time, The Beatles, started out as 'meaningless pop artists.' And look what happened to them.

Let all these girls scream and cry over these boys. Let them be addicted to bubble gum. At least they're not addicted to crack.



Editorial

Ahhh, midterms. They are on every student's mind this hectic week. We would like to take this time to remind students that midterms are just that—midterms. There is still the other half of the semester to work through.

Midterms are a time to reflect on things that you are doing that are beneficial to your academic health, and to slow you the things you can improve on.

If you think you did rather well on midterms and you're satisfied with your performance in your classes, keep in mind that now is not the time to slack off. There is still the other half of the semester you have to finish.

Didn't do too well on midterms? Haven't done too well in your classes? This isn't New is not the time to give up. Talk to your teacher if you are having a problem. Almost all teachers are willing to help you in any way that they can.

A service that students can take advantage of is Project Achieve! Student Support

Services. Project Achieve is the counseling and tutoring program available for students free of charge, located in H-1001. Academic and personal counseling and tutoring, primarily in the areas of English composition, mathematics and computer science, are provided. Study skills and test-taking skills are presented to small groups or classes. Students with physical and/or diagnosed learning disabilities can also receive assistance through Project Achieve! Student Support Services.

Seeing a tutor could greatly improve your understanding of the content of your courses, and therefore your grades. Asking for help never hurt anybody—except maybe your ego. Needing help doesn't make you stupid, and asking for help shows how smart and responsible you are.

As the saying goes, the person who asks a question may appear ignorant for those three minutes, but the person who keeps his question to himself is ignorant for the rest of his life.

The Case for a Comedic Pessimism

by Jeff O'Malley



A note on why I can't swim...

It occurs to me that we are not waving, but drowning. The phenomenon of which I will speak is not limited to our little niche of society. It seems a part of the human collective's psychology that we simply must do strange and odd things. Certainly there are outstanding examples in our current time... everything from car bobbing to extensive reading is seen by some segment of the population as "weird." And, of course, it may well be. Yet, we must also remember that certain weird things have taken place throughout history... witches, alchemy, Yanni. A popular analysis of such troubling trends is that they are simple calls for attention. Oh, no, no, no... this is not the case.

In fact, these little disturbances are part of a much grander problem. The fable of the call for attention theory would have you believe that such incidents of oddity are mostly located in the youth of a civilization. Well, I think if we note our current acts of pedophilia, serial murders and the like, we will see this cannot be the case. Adult males commit those little atrocities for the most part. And, of course, women have some little incidents of weirdness all their own, although generally of a less

violent nature (excluding the occasional Medea, perhaps).

It seems to me that such odd acts of violence are really a more developed version of the same disease as nose piercing, tattoos and the occasional adult diaper fetish. They can, of course, all be placed under the mythological sub-heading, "calls for attention." This would be horribly inaccurate. The atrocity and the oddity are separated only by a maturity of an innate sense of fear.

"...we are drowning, not waving. We sit, diluted, among ourselves. Seeing ourselves in twisted half-shapes and hybrids of false perceptions."

Fear of what? Obviously, fear of other people. As much as it is pining that people require other people to seem equally oblivious that people are afraid of others. To use a cliché, most people accept that they wear a mask upon leaving the house.

Remember this... they wear a slightly different mask for them-

selves! Honesty with yourself is much harder than honesty with others. If you are in doubt of this, then think of your own self-image and then think of what others must see you as. I'm sure they differ. The perceptions, etc. are all an extension of the mask we wear to protect us from other people, and more notably ourselves.

With this theory in mind, you may see why we are drowning, not waving. We sit, diluted, among ourselves. Seeing ourselves in twisted half-shapes and hybrids of false perceptions. And these monstrosities exist only on the outside. An x-ray of the human character would get at a deeper truth.

Not simply the fear, but its origin. As why we are drowning, not waving. We sit, diluted, among ourselves. Seeing ourselves in twisted half-shapes and hybrids of false perceptions. And these monstrosities exist only on the outside. An x-ray of the human character would get at a deeper truth.

And if it were possible to know this nugget, then we would see. As we saw underneath all the falsity, atrocity and abnormality is a sickened, coupling, disgusting abomination that is what you really are. For what is one person amongst such a great ocean as society?

News

Student housing (Continued from page 1)

The land that is being looked at for the possible location of these facilities is about six acres of land located near Rock Run on the perimeter road on campus.

Century Development, one company that has been in contact with the committee, recommended apartment units including 12 efficiency apartments, which is basically like a studio apartment with a kitchen, bath and balcony. The efficiency apartment units are 495 square feet each, and 24 students are said to be able to occupy that space.

According to Century's plan, students would pay \$322 each per month on a nine-month lease, or \$305 on a 12-month lease. Also recommended was 96 two-bedroom/ two bath units, with 610 square feet each unit, housing a total of 192 students. Students would pay \$397 each per month for a nine-month lease, and \$377 for a 12-month lease. In addition, 20 four-bedroom/ two bath units were recommended, with 873 square feet each, housing a total of



Above is an artist's rendition of the housing project being discussed.

80 students. Students would pay \$284 each per month on a nine-month lease, or \$270 on a 12-month lease. Finally, a Community Center was recommended, with a total of 3,000 square feet. Century's recommendations would house a total of 296 students.

Henderson believes that students and parents alike will appreciate the security of on-campus student housing facilities, with "a

support structure with supervision." Henderson envisions providing a safe environment for students with swipe-carded, supervised, gated facilities.

"Students throughout our district and throughout the country are coming to enroll in JJC's academic program. We're interested in this because it provides needed student housing and additional resources not currently available," said Henderson.

JJC profits from Pepsi monopoly

by Lorraine Guerrero

JJC is reaping the profits of monopolization by Pepsi. The cola giant's deal with JJC has already started to show at the school.

With the lack of freedom of choice, came unhappy faces, but with the cheaper prices, and the money being given out to groups throughout the school, students are starting to accepting and actually like the deal.

JJC has formed a Pepsi-Cola Committee to deal with the money that the school will be getting from the company.

At the first meeting of the JJC Pepsi-Cola committee monies were allocated to approved applicants. The monies have gone to the following groups: \$1500 to Lyjan Grief so automotive students can participate in V.I.C.A. activities; \$1500 to instructor Joe Gladkowski so a Manufacturing student can participate in V.I.C.A. activities; \$1500 to

Susan Sink and Roxanne Murch for International Film Forum activities, and \$5000 to Joe Milesovich to purchase student art which is to be displayed at all three campuses. Altogether there were nine requests, some were tabled because of "need for clarification."

The Pepsi Committee will be reviewing and recommending applications to be approved throughout the year.

The applications that are approved by the committee are then given to the President's Counsel for its final approval or veto. Pepsi and JJC are in the process of exploring ideas for items such as mugs, banners and much more to sport the JJC and the cola giant's logo.

The first item to have the logos on it will be bags so that students have something to put the stuff they collect from the annual college fair Oct. 19.

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News

*** News Briefs ***

College Fair

If you're trying to make a decision about which college to attend, or you know someone who is, take time out to attend Joliet Junior College's annual College Fair on Tuesday, Oct. 19. Those attending will have an opportunity to ask questions related to college majors and careers.

College and university admissions personnel from more than 120 institutions across the country will be represented from 5-8:30 p.m. on the college's Main Campus.

Financial Aid seminars will be held at 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theatre in K-Building. Information will be available on college affordability, grants and scholarships.

Colleges and universities scheduled to attend include: Illinois State University, Northern Illinois University, Eastern Illinois University, Southern Illinois University, Western Illinois University, Governors State University, DePaul University, Benedictine University, Iowa State University, Indiana University, ITT Tech, Michigan State University, Purdue University, Bradley University, Aurora University, Marquette University, and the Culinary Institute of America.

Listening Skills Class Offered
JJC's Institute of Economic Technology is offering a class on Oct. 19 8 a.m. - noon to help area professionals and residents improve their listening skills. By

improving listening skills, it's possible to reduce conflict and mistakes, save money and increase effectiveness. During the four-hour seminar, participants will:

identify what "communication killers" are hampering our listening effectiveness, discover the five different listening approaches, identify your natural listening approach, explore appropriate uses of each of the five listening approaches and practice techniques that will enhance your listening skills. The registration fee is \$95, which includes course materials. Pre-registration is required. To register, call (815) 280-1555. The class will meet on Main Campus. For more information, contact the JJC Admissions Office at (815) 280-2231.

Music Recitals

The Fine Arts Department invites everyone to the Music/Viva Recital by Pianist Chih-Yi Chen Oct. 17 at 3 p.m.

Also, Oct. 24 the Joliet Area Music Teachers Association Joint Music Teachers Recital will be held at 2 p.m. Both will be in the JJC theatre.

Brown Bag Lunch Series

The Brown Bag Lunch Series will be offering "Stress, Spirituality & Yoga" presented by Dr. Baba Mattai Wednesday, Oct. 20, at noon in 10006.

Free Movie Opportunities

A Double Feature Horror Movie Night will be held Friday, Oct. 29, 7 p.m. in Cyber Cafe, featuring "Creature From the Black Lagoon" in 3D and "The Birds". Admission is free, and all students are encouraged to attend.

UPS awards scholarships

On Monday Sept. 13, winners of the UPS drawing for two \$500 and one \$1000 scholarships were presented ceremonial checks at the Cyber Cafe. UPS drawing winners are Connie Vann and Rita Martinez

for the \$500 scholarships and Theodore Thompson for the \$1000 scholarship. Free lunch for 125 students was also available.

Changing of the Leaves Festival

The Joliet Park District's Pilcher Park will be holding a Changing of the Leaves Festival Oct. 15 through Oct. 17 for all ages. Enjoy a celebration of the leaves changing colors with guided nature hikes, crafts, entertainment and more. The Pilcher Park Nature Center is located on Gougar Rd. near I-40 and Rt. 30.

Friday, Oct. 15 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. will be the "Foot Stompin' Barn Dance," held at the Horticultural Center (H.C.). Cost is \$6.

Saturday, Oct. 16, there will be a guided hike at the Pilcher Park Nature Center (N.C.), a Fall Expressions Art Exhibit/ Sale also at the N.C. from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Seed Mosaics for 5-13 year olds from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the H.C. for the cost of \$3 (\$2 for Resident Discount Card holders); another guided hike at 11 a.m. at the N.C.; Walnut Pruning for ages 5-13 year olds from 11 a.m.-noon at the H.C. at the cost of \$5 (\$4 for RDC holders); Twig Weaving for ages 5-13 year olds from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at the H.C. at the cost of \$3 (\$2 for RDC holders); dedication ceremony for the Sensory Trail at 1 p.m.; hike to the Flowing Well and Greenhouse at the N.C. at 2 p.m.; and Leaf Printing for all ages at 2:30 p.m. at the N.C. at no cost.

Sunday, Oct. 17, there will be "Bibing with Jerry" at the N.C. at 8 a.m. a guided hike at 9 a.m. at the N.C. the Fall Expressions Art Exhibit/ Sale at the N.C. from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., a Nature Craft Class for all ages, free of charge at the N.C. at 11 a.m., another guided hike at the N.C. at noon and from 1p.m. - 2:45 there will be entertainment by folk singer Mark Dvornik at the N.C.

For more information, call (815) 741-PARK(7275).

Film Forum
Film Forum: don't miss our next film, POW WOW HIGHWAY, showing Wednesday, Oct. 13, at 3 p.m. and Thursday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m. in D-2002. The viewing is absolutely FREE! This is our first English language film in the series. It is a comedy tracing two Native Americans as they travel across the Southwest. If you liked "Smoke Signals," you'll love this one. It is under two hours and will be followed by a brief discussion. Refreshments will be served. The film forum is open to the entire community, so bring a friend!

Pumpkin Decorating and Halloween Hike
Joliet Park District's Hartman Recreation Center located at 511 N. Collins St., offers The Great Pumpkin Carving for ages 4 years and over on Friday, Oct. 22 from 3p.m.-5p.m. Bring in your pumpkin, and markers and paint will be provided. Fee is \$5. There will also be a Halloween Hike for all ages at Saturday, Oct. 23, from 6-9 p.m. at Joliet Park District's Pilcher Park Nature Center. This hike features guided tours where you'll learn about all the woods' most misunderstood creatures, stories by the campfire and kids get to make a magic wand. Not intended to be scary, but ahead for your hike time. Fee is \$6 (\$4 with RDC). For more information call (815) 741-

PARK(7275).

Brookfield Zoo Lecture Series

The Brookfield Zoo, located at 3300 Golf Road in Brookfield, Ill., is offering its fall lecture series, "Bats, Bugs, and Biological Invasions." You can venture into the lives of some of the world's smallest and mysterious creatures that make a huge impact on the environment. Top scientists will dispel the myths of spiders, bats and other organisms on the move.

"Biological Invasions: Near and Far," presented by Dr. Daniel Simberloff, professor of Environmental Studies, University of Tennessee, will be held Thursday, Oct. 14, at 7:30 p.m. in the Discovery Center. Simberloff will discuss how foreign plants and animals are invading ecosystems and destroying local species, and ways to protect native plants and animals.

"The World of Spiders," presented by Dr. George Uetz, professor of Biological Sciences, University of Cincinnati, will be held Thursday, Oct. 28, at 7:30 p.m. at the Discovery Center. See how Uetz gets up close and personal with spiders using cutting-edge video and computer technology to investigate the details of an arachnid's life.

"The Amazing World of Bats," presented by Dr. Merlin Tuttle, Founder/ Executive Director, Bat Conservation International, will be held Wednesday, Nov. 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Riverside-Brookfield High School Auditorium. You can go deep into caverns, jungles and deserts with Tuttle to encounter one of the world's most fascinating animals- the bat.

JJC Club News

Honors Program

The JJC Honors Program invites students, faculty and staff to attend the 16th annual World Food Day Teleconference, "Tomorrow's Farmers: An Uncertain Future," Friday, Oct. 15, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in J-1001. Everyone is encouraged to feel free to come and go as their schedules permit. From 11-11:55 a.m. there will be a panel discussion featuring international experts, General Berhan Gebre Egziabher, General Manager of the Ethiopian Environmental Protection Authority and a leader of the Committee of 144 Like-Minded Nations; Kevin D. Gallagher, Global Integrated Pest Management (IPM) expert and advisor on participatory development for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; Rebecca Grynspan, Economist and formerly Vice-President of Costa Rica; Rekah Mehra, Vice President of the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), Washington DC; and moderator Ray Suarez, host of National Public Radio's (NPR) nationwide call-in news program Talk of the Nation. From noon-12:55 p.m. will be the U.S. Department of Agriculture broadcast on key problems of, and solutions to, domestic food insecurity.

Existing best practices will be showcased and new commitments will be highlighted. From 2 p.m. there will be an opportunity for teleconference participants to call in questions to the panel. For additional information, contact Peter Neff at ext. 2731.

"How Poetry Saves the World: A Millennium Reflection" will be presented via teleconference in J-2011 Tuesday, Oct. 19, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. This teleconference is offered through the JJC Honors Program as part of the National College Honors Council Satellite Seminar lecture series, "The Vietnam Millennium: The Past as Prologue." An optional reading list is available upon request. For additional information, contact Peter Neff at ext. 2731.

Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa has agreed to take four of four projects associated with the United Way of Willard County, Celebration of Community Caring 1999 Make a Difference Day. Members will be doing official work for three of the United Way agencies and will conduct a drive to collect items that will be donated to eight other agencies. Students, staff, and the general public is encouraged to contribute to this drive and to "Make a Difference in our own community."

Drop-boxes will be set up around the college.

The following Scholarship awards were presented to Phi Theta Kappa members during the Sixteenth Annual Scholarship Awards ceremony held Sept. 19: Melinda Allen- JJC Music Talent, Natalie Mae & Isabella Mary Knockey Music, Eldon R. Lewis Music, Sarah J. Miller Memorial, Student Service Recognition Five Arts Department, and the Margaret L. West Music; Mandy Cook- Michael Escue Memorial, William Irwin-Stanley Trigg, Jr. Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Katarina Kamotits- Daughters of Penelope, Charles Kennedy- Sean Krysowaty- Hamilton-Morse, Maria McCauley- Datalat Scholars Foundation, Steven & Sylvia Pellas Memorial, Student Service Recognition Mathematics Department, Christine Murphy-Bernard E. Kambic Memorial, Marlene Nurkowski- Florence Andrews Schmitz Memorial Nursing, Anna & Samuel Trackman, Becky Shinn- JJC Council Local #604, Traci Shivers & Joanne Stary- Family Howe Fisk Foundation, Joanne Stary- Illinois Health Improvement Association, Paul & Ruth Morimoto, Daniel Webb- Frank Burla Memorial, and Heather Wilkins- Mr. & Mrs.

Fredrick W. Schmidt, Sr. & Minnie Kahn.

Native American Club

JJC's Native American Club presents "Lakota (Sioux) Culture" by Clivia Malatree, Wednesday, Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. in J-3011. Clivia Malatree is originally from the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. She now resides in the Chicago area and will be visiting JJC to lecture on various aspects of Lakota (Sioux) culture. Everyone is invited- you do not have to be Native American to get involved. For more information, contact Fred Harris in Media Services, J-3016, (815) 280-2566.

Vet Toeh

Are you naked? Why do some people have to be? As you are packing away your summer suits, and taking out your winter wear, keep in mind the Vet Toeh Club's clothing drive. Drop off boxes are in the Nursing Lab and in more KKI09. All donated clothes and shoes will benefit Lamb's Fold, a women's shelter. Women's, men's and children's clothing, non-perishable foods, and paper products (toilet paper, paper towels, and diapers) will be accepted until Nov. 1.

Peers Promoting Wellness

Do you have someone you would like to recognize for going out of his or her way or just being a

nice person? Peers Promoting Wellness wants to give you the opportunity to recognize that special someone. On Oct. 14 and 15 between 12:30-3 p.m., the PWP group will be hand delivering "hugs and kisses" to people. The balloon bouquet (four balloons) and a bunch of Hershey's Hugs and Kisses will be taken to people according to the orders received on Oct. 12 and 13. The bouquets cost \$3.

Orders can be placed by e-mailing Pamela A. Diddy at pdiddy@jcc.edu or in person on the bridge and concourse on Oct. 12-13 between noon and 2 p.m. The person's name and exact location and time to be delivered needs to be provided. For more information, e-mail or call Diddy at ext. 2720.

Student Alliance

JJC Student Alliance/Student Government meetings are open to all, and will be held in the Cyber Cafe Thursday, Oct. 14, 21 and 28 at 3 p.m.

Leadership Training

Club and government members are encouraged to participate in a Student Leadership Style Training Session, "I Like Your Style," presented by Patricia Fine, director of OSSA noon, Friday Oct. 29. The session is open to all interested students.

Features

Clay Kirkland joins Fine Arts family

by Adam Eggman

There is a new addition to the JJC Fine Arts Department family—Clay Kirkland.

Kirkland has the very impossible job of trying to fill the very large shoes of Rex Stone, who is now semi-retired.

Kirkland has come to JJC from Louisiana State University at Alexandria. He has his M.F.A., which, in his field, is similar to a Ph.D. He has his B.A. and masters degree from the University of Mississippi in the areas of Speech.

Movie Review

'Idle Hands' are comedic horror's playground

by Nina Drugas

You'll laugh. You'll cringe. You'll want to take up?

Already in the Halloween spirit? I recommend renting the horror spoof *Idle Hands*. I know most of the time horror spoofs are a dime a dozen, but this one is worth seeing for so many reasons.

and Theater

Kirkland, along with Dr. Zachary Bloomfield and Stone are all involved with the JC Players. The JC Players is the club for Drama students at JJC. He looks forward to working with Stone and Bloomfield along with the JC Players during their upcoming events.

Contrary to some people may think, Kirkland is not waiting his own play, but is working on a Reader's Theater script. The Reader's Theater group is a group

that takes bits of literature that are made into plays. When asked if he would ever write a play he said, "not now, but maybe one day."

He will be doing the last show of the season, which is going to be "Steel Magnolias." He is looking forward to doing the last show of the season.

He says, "There will not be any butterflies but there will be a lot of stress." He gets stressed before shows because he wants them to go perfectly.

He has a couple words of

advice for actors and actresses: "Just because you do not get a leading role does not mean that you are not a good actor. It might just be that you do not fit the profile of that character at all." Kirkland says.

Kirkland says he is first and foremost a teacher, because he enjoys working with his students.

"I like working with the students who are just getting started." He is also a big supporter of junior colleges. "The opportunities are so much better at a junior college than they are at senior college," he adds.



New Fine Arts instructor Clay Kirkland
photo taken by Shona Lindray



the grave out of sheer laziness because the proverbial "white light" was too far to walk into. With the help of his undead buddies, Anon manages to sever his own hand, chase it in a big-wheeled Ford, make it to the dance in time to witness Differing's lead singer get scalped, escape a Druidic priestess, and save the girl of his dreams—all the while realizing the true power of marijuana.

Idle Hands has a fun-filled cast including stars such as Devon Sawa (Now and Then, Casper), Seth Green (from Austin Powers

and TV's *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* fame), Vivica A. Fox (Independence Day) and Jessica Alba (Never Been Kissed).

As promised in the last issue of the Blazer, this is something the guys will like. So gentlemen, sit back, hold tight to a girl, giggle at the innuendoes, and/or oggle the scantily clad females, and enjoy a bit of blood and gore. Ladies, if nothing else is of interest? Two words: Seth Green. Use Halloween as an excuse to watch something fun and entertaining.

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Features

CD Reviews

Garth Brooks, Method Man and Redman reviewed

Garth Brooks

"The Life of Chris Gaines"
Rating: ***

It's a brilliant idea. Garth Brooks has released a "Greatest Hits" package of Chris Gaines' songs. Gaines is a fictional pop superstar that Garth will play in an upcoming film titled "The Lamb." He wants fans to be familiar with the life and music of Gaines before they see the movie.

Unfortunately, the content is not as brilliant. However, after selling 25 million records and compiling the most impressive catalogue of hits in country music, Garth has earned the right to try something new.

The thoughtful packaging includes pictures of Gaines' album covers and explanations of each "hit." As for the actual disc, it is loaded with medium and tempo pop tunes. The idea might have worked better had Gaines been developed as a rock star rather than

a pop star. Garth has proven throughout his career (and particularly in his live shows) that he can rock.

While none of Gaines' music rocks, there are a few good pop songs. "Lost in You" is romantic, and displays nicely the higher end of Garth's limited range.

"I Don't Matter to the Sun" is possibly the best song, but that could be because it is a first-grade finger-as-you-sing from country. If you are as big a Garth fan as I am, this is something new to nibble on until the next Garth Brooks country album (due in fall of 2000).

"Unfortunately the content is not as brilliant. However, after selling 25 million records... Garth has earned the right to try something new."

We've got to admire his work ethic, his creativity and his will to go against the grain. Meanwhile,

we must hope Chris Gaines doesn't suck the life out of Garth Brooks.

Method Man and Redman

"Blackout"
Rating: ****

Two of the best in the business have put their plectrums, smooth-talking, DcJ-famming heads together to offer one of the best hip-hop albums of the year.

Some of the beats remain relatively simple and provide nothing more than a backdrop, allowing the listener to focus on the tag team's flawless flows. Others are sweet car-candy that swallow the rappers' verses and force them to conform to the melody.

Both approaches work here. Redman leaves most of his jokes in his pocket in order to coordinate with the rugged mood rolled out by Method Man. They stay faithful to their hard-core urban throughout

Music Ratings:

***** - Buy it today!!

**** - A fan favorite

*** - Good Tunes

** - Not worth your \$15

* - Not worth the wax

the disc and spit clever metaphors through every hole in every speaker.

Two standouts are "YOU" and "Cereal Killer." Both incorporate a short lyrical meter that they generally save for 'books' to create titillating verses.

Blackout also brings the funk that one might expect on "Maad Crew" and "Cheka." "The 7" makes good use of a sample of Jay-Z's "Can I Get A..." while samples of the work of James Brown, George Clinton and even Dave

Matthews are scattered throughout the tracks. The wit that has placed these two among the most respected rappers in the hip-hop community is abundant. The collection also includes past hits from the duo's intertwining careers, such as "How High."

Whether you refer to them as Method Man and Redman, Tical and Funk Doctor, or Johnny Blaze and Reggie Noble, Blackout will have you referring to them favorably and often.

**Reviews by Matt Packard*

Horoscopes

by Amy Lakeberg

Libra (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Stop sitting around and moping and go out and do something! Go out with your friends. Stop judging them and see them as they really are. Since your birthday is this month, get ready to be surprised. Your love life is great. Ask that special someone out.

Scorpio (Oct. 22 to Nov. 21) Your friends look up to you and you count on you for support. Show them you care by doing something special for them. Use your inventive self to create something constructive. This will avoid controversy with your parents.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Do not ignore the people around you. The friends and family you have are really what's important in your life. Being so easy-going can be tough, try showing your stronger side.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) So, you don't get excited very easily? Well, someone close to you is planning a surprise; you might just have to lose your cool. Try not to act on impulse and think things through. Listen to your intuition.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Do not let your friends take advantage of your generous nature! Show them who's boss. Try not to worry so much about upcoming tests, papers and events. Your intellectual nature will only help you in the long run.

Pisces (Feb. 19 to March 20) Overcome some of that shyness, kick back with your friends at the local restaurant or mall. You might just find some one special for you sitting around the corner. Relax and watch some TV with your favorite person. You need the time off.

Aries (March 21 to April 20) Even though friends and family have been giving you a hard time, try to forgive their mistakes. Do not hold your anger in, let it out on paper or take a walk. Your friends really admire you so much for standing up for them. Turn the tables and let them stand up for you once in a while.

Taurus (April 21 to May 20) You have a reputation for always being determined and bull-headed. Even so, you are not always right on everything. Take your friends' opinions into consideration. You always put your studies first. That is a great quality to have, but take some time off and spend it with friends and family.

Gemini (May 21 to June 21) Your humor can really brighten people up. You always try to make the best of situations. Sometimes things are unexpected. Do not get so upset when things go wrong. Take time out to talk to someone who's important.

Cancer (June 22 to July 22) The time you have off right now is as great in a while. You take great pride in yourself, which is great. Try portraying the personality, generosity, loyalty and individuality.

Leo (July 23 to Aug. 22) Though your qualities of strength, courage and humor attract many to you, try to focus your attention not on yourself but on other people. When expressing your romantic ideals, try to let your head rule over your heart. That important person in your life will understand you better if you think things through from their viewpoint.

Virgo (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Try not to torture everyone with your "everything has to be perfect" attitude. Friends may not always be right on time, but give them a break. Your talent of diplomacy will help a lot this month. Stand up for what you believe in, everything will turn out all right in the end.



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Wolves fall 27-24 to Harper following a rebound win over College of Dupage

by Mike Oliveri

The Wolves football team lost its rematch to Harper on Oct. 9, 27-24, which puts their record at 2-4 overall and in the NAC. Freshman Eric Gantner paced the Wolves with 177 yards of total offense with one rushing touchdown. He threw for another. Terrence Banks also had 98 rushing yards and a touchdown.

Earlier this month, the Wolves took on the Chaperals for the second time this season, only this time in their own den and with a strong thirst for vengeance.

In a dominating performance on Saturday, Oct. 2, JJC defeated

the College of Dupage 33-15, biding its mood to 2-3 overall and in the NAC conference. The Wolves held COD to 256 net yards this time around, a remarkable change over the 430 net yards COD gained in the last matchup. The Wolves doubled their own yardage, achieving a net gain of 375 yards.

"Our defense really stood up this game," said WR Antoine Reed regarding the team's tremendous turnaround in the rematch.

Reed said the Wolves offense "did a better job of hanging onto the ball." In the first game, the Wolves had three fumbles, turning

all three over to COD. In the rematch, the Wolves fumbled twice but recovered both. Freshman QB Eric Whitehead terrorized COD's defense, completing a 49-yard touchdown pass to WR John McMillan and rushing for two more touchdowns in himself. WR Sultan Abdullah led JJC's rushers with 141 yards on 24 carries.

The Wolves also traveled to Grand Rapids, Mich., on Sept. 25, where they lost 31-28.

Saturday, Oct. 16, marks the Wolves' homecoming game, where they will take on Rock Valley College at Joliet Memorial Stadium.

Just Talkin' Sports (From Back Page)

Schaefer said. "And I don't want anyone here who doesn't want to be here. . . We'll get something done."

With Navarro's absence the White Sox will free needed dollars to sign a quality free agent. But, it will be a chore to find a team that would actually take Navarro willingly.

"It's hard to be here when it's almost all young guys," Navarro added. "... I want to be in a place where I'm comfortable, a place where I know I'll be a starter and not in the bullpen."

Hey Jamie, try Japan.

BRING ON THE IRISH
-Love him or hate him, Notre Dame coach Bob Davie deserves a little credit.

In just three years at the helm, he has taken the nation's most decried football program and flushed it right into the bowels of mediocrity.

Consider Notre Dame's recent 23-13 let down to Michigan State, or even a 26-22 loss to rival Michigan in week two, as evidence that the "Golden Domers" have shed a few karats from their legendary war paint. But in Davie's defense, he couldn't do it all alone.

For instance, take Notre Dame's most memorable blunder this season against Purdue. Fumbled on the five-yard line with just 16 seconds remaining, the Irish looked as if they would squeak away with a momentum shifting win over the Boilermakers in week three.

But on the final play, fifth-year senior quarterback Jarious Jackson was suddenly swarmed by a horde of Purdue defenders. Jackson was sacked for a loss of nine-yards, and Notre Dame lost 28-21. Face it, the Irish can blow the big game with the best of them.

"I have no clue," fullback Joey Goodspeed said of the botched play. "We had a play called, and there was miscommunication between the fullback and the quarterback. It happens."

Notre Dame has posted two straight convincing wins over Oklahoma and Arizona State, which offers some hope that they can make good on their annual Tidy Toilet Bowl appearance.

But, with SEC titan Tennessee still looming on the schedule, the Irish certainly do not seem to have luck on their side.

Upcoming Games

Wolves Football

October 16- Homecoming Game
JJC hosts Rock Valley College at Joliet Memorial Stadium (1:00)

Lady Wolves Volleyball

October 19- Last Home Match
JJC hosts Elgin Community College at 6:00 p.m.

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Sports

Lady Wolves clinch spot at nationals

By Mike Oliveri

After their second year back in competition, the Lady Wolves tennis team finished its season with a 6-5 record, securing a trip to the nationals in Tucson, Ariz., next spring.

The women's tennis program was canceled several years ago due to lack of interest. Then, last year, students approached the athletic department about restarting the team.

"(Sophomore) Ashley Born from Coal City was really interested," said head tennis coach Tim Vandervall. "I give her a lot of credit. (Sophomore) Sara Schaeffer from Tinley Park was also interested."

Once the interest returned, Vandervall says JJC Director of Athletics Wayne King approached him to restart the team. Vandervall, who has coached men's and women's tennis for 11 years for JJC, agreed. From there, he went on to recruit more talent, such as sophomore Felicia Randle, who he says played well for Romeoville H.S.

"Some of it was luck, some of it was getting the word out," Vandervall added. "Some people don't think they're good enough. You just have to tell them they can play."



1999 JJC Women's tennis team. Front Row from left to right: Sarah Schaeffer, Kim Love, Valerie Kloover, Erin Ohlson, and Coach Tim Vandervall. Back row from left to right: Ashley Born, Felicia Randle, Brenna Ohlson. Photo courtesy of JJC Athletic Dept.

So what took a young team to the nationals? "The girls wanted it and they worked at it," Vandervall said.

Furthermore, the size of the team — there are six freshmen and six sophomores on the team — was a big help. "Depth is the most important thing," Vandervall said. "In six singles games, the top two

may not do so well. But then the others pick it up. Teams with good numbers and good depth have a good chance in college tennis."

The girls finished second behind the College of DuPage, and will likely face them again in the national tournament. DuPage has it a shot at it all," Vandervall said. "They're a strong team. The others

them to hold their own against the other schools. The tournament will have six single and three double matches, though outcome of the individual matches would largely depend on the luck of the draw.

The tournament will take place in Tucson, Ariz., May 6-12, 2000. Of course, that's JJC's final exam week for the spring semester. "I told the girls to make other arrangements," Vandervall said with a smile.

The men's tennis season starts in February, and Vandervall is always looking for more players to join the team. Interested students should contact Vandervall or get in touch with the athletic department in the G building. JJC also offers tennis courses as part of the college's physical education curriculum.

Vandervall has been named the Coach of the Year in the North Central Community College Conference twice. In the spring of 1991, he coached former JJC tennis standout Jenny Kargers to the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II championship in Tyler, Texas. His daughters, Julie, 24, and Greichen, 23, both played for the University of Wisconsin at Green Bay, where his wife, Barbara, works full-time for the sports department.

JJC Volleyball downs top ranked team in tourney

by Adam Eggman

With about three-fourths of the season behind them, the Lady Wolves Volleyball record stands at 6-15 overall and 2-1 in N4C conference play.

In the Lake County Tournament, the Lady Wolves came home 2-2. One of their wins was over conference rival College of DuPage, which is ranked No. 1 in the nation.

Head coach Kym McKay said, "It was a great confidence booster for the team."

The Lady Wolves were led by freshman outside hitter JoAnna Cheshareck with 28 kills, followed by freshman Becker Gummer with 25 kills. Gummer also tallied 36 digs. Freshman Anne Marino and

Cheshareck added 29 digs apiece, and sophomore outside hitter Bobbi Petric led with 39 assists for JJC.

With a record of 4-14 overall, the Lady Wolves traveled to Harper on Sept. 28 and defeated them 15-10, 16-14, 15-8. Also, JJC's conference record improved to 2-1 in the N4C. Leaders were Petric with 14 assists followed by sophomore setter Jodi Kettmann with 10. Marino led with nine digs, followed by Cheshareck with seven. Sophomore Cathie Budd and Cheshareck both tallied 11 kills each.

After the victory over Harper, the Lady Wolves took on Lakesland C.C. at home two days later. Despite some solid play, they were

eventually defeated in all three games, 17-15, 15-7, 15-10.

On Oct. 5, JJC welcomed Illinois Valley C.C. into their den. The Lady Wolves responded by routing IVC in three straight sets, 15-7, 15-10, 15-9. Marino paced JJC with 17 digs. Kettmann notched 16 assists, and Gummer led with 8 kills.

The win ranked the Lady Wolves 13th in the nation among Division III schools.

Coach McKay looks forward to the remainder of the season, and hopes the team can continue to play well against COD.

"If it comes down to us and COD in the regionals and we win, then COD goes home and we go on to the nationals," McKay said.



JoAnna Cheshareck anticipates a return as Bobbi Petric and Anne Marino back her up. Photo by Shonie Linday

Bears muster some magic; Notre Dame doesn't

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE — In just five games as head coach of the Chicago Bears, Dick Jauron has done the near impossible. He's turned the once hapless Bears into a contender.

Super Bowl contender? Probably not, but give him some time.

But, Jauron has posted wins over Kansas City and the beloved Mike Ditka and his New Orleans Saints. Then, he guided his players into Minnesota to silence critics with a 24-22 win over Randy Moss, Cris Carter and the Vikings. The victory ended Chicago's four-game losing streak at Minnesota and halted a 10-game road losing streak in the NFC Central.

It is safe to say that Jauron, alongside offensive coordinator Gary Crowton, has brought football back to Chicago.

With a little luck and a competent kicker, the Bears, who are currently 3-2, could easily be 4-1 or even 5-0 this season. But, remember this: it is a team without a clear-cut superstar on either side of the ball. However,

Just Talkin' Sports

by Mark Malone



Jauron and his coaching staff has seemed to make all the right decisions, right down to the last detail. Well, except for the kicker.

The Shaw Matthews-Cade McNown quarterback rotation has evolved into the most planning work of genius. Because, after Matthews exited the Vikings' game due to a hamstring pull, the rookie McNown didn't feel he was thrown into the fire like Cleveland's rookie Tim Couch. And when asked if he would have been prepared with his customary one quarter of play through the season, McNown didn't hesitate to answer.

"I don't know so, because then they're thinking 'This is my first time in a game,'

and a lot of things are going through your head," he was quoted in the *Herold News*. "But I've already been in a lot of games and had some shots."

McNown was ready and poised to play. And he responded by connecting on nine-of-14 passes for 97 yards. But, Jauron and Crowton insist they're not miracle workers.

"We're not geniuses," Crowton said after the Minnesota game. "We're just normal, common everyday people trying to do the best we can."

So was Dave Wannstedt.

DON'T LET THE DOOR HIT YA' IN THE... — Rumor has it, White Sox general manager Ron Schueler is burning up the

phone lines to find pitcher Jamie Navarro's one-way ticket out of Chicago.

Let me be the first to volunteer to pack his bags.

Navarro, who tallied a 7-12 record this season and was shelled to a 6.27 ERA, was demoted to the bullpen for the second consecutive year. Throughout the season, Navarro has nit-picked teammates, scolded umpires and criticized fans as frequently as he threw a home-run ball. His four-year, \$20 million contract was the primary reason for his extended stay on the South Side.

But, after three miserable years, the Sox are finally winning.

"I'm not happy here," Navarro was recently quoted in the *Chicago Tribune*. "They definitely know that I don't want to be back. I don't want to be in this type of environment any longer. I don't want to put this uniform on anymore."

And the feeding is mutual.

"Jamie doesn't want to be here,"

See "Just Talkin' Sports" on Page 7



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Clinton speaks at Hispanic leadership conference

by Stephanie Busbey

President Bill Clinton gave the keynote address at the United States Hispanic Leadership Conference that JJC's Latinos Unidos participated in Oct. 7-10 in Chicago. The theme of the 17th annual conference, sponsored by the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute, was "Taking Responsibility: Making Latinos Count in America's New Majority."

Clinton as well as many of the other speakers at the conference emphasized the increasing Hispanic population. The present national Hispanic population of 31 million is expected to overtake the non-Hispanic black population to become the largest minority group by the end of 2004, according to an Associated Press story on the Chicago speech.

The Hispanic population's presence is nothing new, says Latinos Unidos member Rene Gonzalez. "People mistakenly think we just came over the border, but we've been here legally for about three or four generations.



Latinos Unidos President Susi Mejia, center, prepares to shake the hand of President Clinton at the 17th annual United States Hispanic Leadership Conference held recently in Chicago.

We're here to contribute, to make this a better nation," he said.

"People don't like change," said Gonzalez. "I live in a community with a white majority, so I don't see how much we've grown. We need to integrate instead of fol-

lowing old patterns of segregation, and educate people that we're not a threat."

Clinton said, "The oldest fear of the human heart is the fear of people who are different from us." The Chicago speech was Clinton's

photo courtesy of Latinos Unidos last on a three-day trip that began with addresses to labor and gay groups in New York, in which he "struck the same chord again and again," according to the Associated Press story.

See "Clinton" on Page 5

Crime statistics misleading

by Stephanie Busbey

The Campus Police Department's crime statistics from 1998 compared to '97 and '96 may seem shocking, showing forcible burglaries jumping from only one reported in '96 and '97 to 13 in 1998, and thefts jumping from only two reported in '96 and one in 1997 to 37 in 1998.

However, Chief Steven Bennett believes the drastic increase is due to changes they have made in classifying these crimes this year, adding theft and detecting non-forcible burglary.

In all, Bennett says, "I'm sure our crime statistics would reflect

similar schools of a similar size." Bennett said he has been unable to locate police records for '96 and '97. Campus Police is required by law to keep records of police reports on file from the three previous years.

Possible explanations Bennett cited were movement of offices, and disorganization of the archives. Campus Police is currently in the process of labeling, categorizing, and buying records prior to placing them into storage.

Bennett said that most thefts on campus are crimes of opportunity. Unlocked doors to classrooms, offices and other areas where valu-

ables are stored are taken advantage of to steal different items. Bennett said that several offices have been left unsecured and several vehicles have been left unlocked with valuables in plain view.

Forecible burglary is the use of force in entering any building, office or vehicle by prying open a door or window, by smashing or shattering the glass or breaking the lock. Theft is when someone walks into an unlocked or open door and takes what is available.

A trailer left unattended with camping equipment totaling several thousand dollars was stolen

recently, as well as a modem from the cafeteria. Stolen TVs and VCRs have been an ongoing campus-wide problem, according to Bennett. Computers from different offices have also "come up missing," but no computers have been stolen from labs.

Some cash and credit cards were reported stolen from the locker room. License plates from cars have also been stolen, screws and all. Cell phones and papers have been stolen, at times left in plain view in a car with an unlocked door. Books and calculators have also been stolen because they were

See "Crime" on Page 4

Student Alliance fills positions, surveys

by Stephanie Busbey

The JJC Student Alliance (JCSA) has recently filled all of its positions, and has compiled the results from the student surveys from its Open Forum Sept. 22.

The following appointments have been made: President Chris Boyk, Vice-President Jenny Gable, Vice-President of Cultural Involvement John Glaukue, Vice-President of Programming Board Tom Rednour, Secretary Dan Berrill, North Campus Representative Liz Santos, City Center Representative Melinda Fitch, Treasurer Mark Sigmond, Representatives At-Large Tim Daly, Chris Blumh, Gary Drake, Anthony Fenil.

Members are "appointed in April and the group will internally nominate and elect officers by the third meeting of the fall semester," according to the JCSA constitu-



Row one (l to r): Mark Sigmond, Tom Rednour, Liz Santos, Jennifer Gable, Melinda Fitch, and John Glaukue. Row two (l to r): Tim Daly, Eric Starkey, Gary Drake, Chris Blumh, Anthony Fenil, Dan Berrill, Chris Boyk, and advisor Pottie Fine.

"The Student Alliance decided to delay its election of officers until the seventh week of the fall semester in order to allow the newly appointed members to become

human side of the organization to develop, so it can be effective in meeting its purpose," Fine added.

A total of 324 students participated in the Student Alliance Open Forum, filling out surveys.

Questions focused on getting to know the student body in general and finding out how relevant the issues they have already considered are, as well as seeking any new issues students may bring to light.

According to the survey results, 91 students, 28 percent, indicated that they have concerns.

The answers given most often to the question "What student issues do you feel Student Alliance should be concerned with?" in order of frequency, were: parking (spaces available, lights, plowing), activities for students, poor behavior and/or student conduct.

"The thought is that in the long run it's better to allow time for the

human side of the organization to develop, so it can be effective in meeting its purpose," Fine added.

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See "Alliance" on Page 4

Opinion

Business traveling takes toll on families

Recently I began a job as a desk clerk at a hotel. Now that I have gotten down the basics of the job, I can relax a little and take more time out to talk to people. Already I have learned a great deal. It is truly interesting to meet people from around the country and even, sometimes, from around the globe. I like talking to people a lot, hearing their accents, asking them how they like Chicago, etc. And many will stop to chat with me, which is nice. But I can't help but notice that some have a possibly unconscious, ulterior motive.

See, many of the people who stop to talk are men in business suits. Some stay with us for days, sometimes weeks at a time. They are here to work and usually visit the hotel frequently. While talking to some of these men (we see very few women in this situation) I learn about their lives and the kind of people they are. Most of them have wives and children that are states, or at least many miles away. They talk to me because they are lonely. And who could blame them? I couldn't stand to be away from my family as long as some of these men tend to be. My dad went away on business for a week once and I missed him after about two days—and

From the recesses

by Carole Sharwarko



I am a 20-year-old relatively psychologically self-sufficient person. Some of these men's kids are 2, 5, 10, 13. How must they feel?

I certainly don't have to insinuate that these are immoral or bad guys. That's the thing. Most of them are extremely nice, fun guys. I know that most do the things they do for their children, to provide them with what they need and want. It's admirable and necessary to them in this world. I'm just wondering why it has to be that way.

Okay, big business leaders, it's great that we are a "globally diversified" society and it's amazing that we have the ability to conduct business with people all over the country, but what effect is it having on our familial infrastructure? In the interest of open-mindedness and cultural and financial experience and gain, we have become too wide-

eyed, too ambitious. We have forgotten what creates great leaders and masterminds of the business world—family. How can one grow to be a great individual without some kind of support? I'm sure the at-home parent provides this and I'm sure the traveling parent does whenever he or she can, but the positive effects of having two solid parental role models is immeasurable.

In this, our beloved Age of Technology, why is it still necessary to travel to conduct business all the time? Can't we just email, fax and internet our ways through it? Ask a business person this and they'll come back with something to the effect of, "You lose the human element when you do long-distance business." Oh, okay; you don't want your business clientele to go without the human touch, but it's okay for your kids? I think the

formulation of an effective next generation is more important than hooking that "big deal." I guess not all people think of it this way.

Not only, though, are the children being forsaken in this cycle of business, but their parents, too. I see the eyes of some of these grillmen when they tell me about their kids and I can see the longing and the hurt. They don't break down and cry about it. They aren't emotional wrecks. Most even have a good attitude. But I can see it takes its toll. Not only are they away from their kids and wives, but they sleep in a hotel every night. One guy told me, "Sometimes I wake up in the morning and I don't know where I am." That's okay if you're Jack Kerouac and you don't care because it's some big, special adventure. But these are people's lives. Traveling around, constantly on planes, eating bad food or eating alone in restaurants, and the best person you can find to talk to is the night desk clerk at your hotel.

I don't know how much of a solution I can present to change this. But I know I like sleeping in my own bed, watching TV on my couch and hugging my mom and dad daily. And that I could never do what these guys do. Maybe that's just me.

A personal revelation of the objective correlative

The Case for a Comedic Pessimism

by Jeff O'Malley



(ah, my friend, you do not know, you do not know!) I was sitting at my computer, reading my e-mail Saturday around 10 p.m. and the afternoon, the evening sleeps so peacefully! I While reading the e-mail, a good friend of mind drops me an instant message (and indeed the will-be time) I had recently been informed he was moving to England. (the hollow meet?) He needed help moving. (to prepare a face to meet the faces that you meet) I offered my assistance without being asked. (well now that's done I'm glad it's over!) Even with it being moderately late, he quickly accepted, this being one of our last chances to meet. (lonely men in shirt-sleeves, leaning out of windows) He, living approximately two hours away, I obtained direc-

tions to his residence (unreal city under the brown fog) I drove to get gas for the trip (I was neither living nor dead) I got the gas and afterward began to drive, and think. (do I dare? And do I dare?) My friend's move came to mind. (but our lot crawls between dry ribs to keep out metaphysics warm) The moving I was making came to mind. (I have been wondering frequently of late, but our beginnings' never know our ends!) My moving and my friends do not seem to be perpendicular to one another (I shall sit here, serving tea to friends) I was saddened by his progress, more so by my own.

(the castles of thought and prayer) I became very sleepy and nearly drove off the road. (come in

under the shadow of this red rock) I arrived at my friend's

(I will show you fear in a hand-ful of dust) I had to call up to his room, he was not in the lobby as promised. (dust, dust, dust, dust of dust) People were all around the lobby; I was alone. (I grow old, I grow old.) My friend came down. (in the room the women come and go, talking of michelangelo) We spoke of literature and philosophy, briefly. (expert beyond experience) He pit me to work and we moved his possessions.

(to prepare a face to meet the faces that you meet) My friend said I was tired and offered to drive for me. (that's not it at all, that is not what I meant at all) We drove, homework bound. (I never know what you are thinking) At first,

there was quiet. (o O O O that shakespearian rag; it's so elegant, so intelligent) We talked of Inosoco, Beckett, Lawrence, Nabokov and the like. (for a know only a heap of broken images) The conversation turned "serious" to topics of love came up. (not I am not Prince Hamlet, nor was I meant to be) We narrated on our unremarkable and few failures. (we have lingered in the chambers of the sea, by sea-girs wreathed with seaweed red and brown, till human voices wake us, and we drown) Then, we were quiet. (you know

not how much they roar to me, my friends, and how strange and rare it is to find) My friend told me to put a tape of an old T.S. Eliot reading his own works. "I did... we sat in relative silence. (and so you are going about it when do you return? (whatlow meet? stuffed men) but that's a useless question, you hardly know when you are coming back, you will find so much to learn) The silence made me think my useless thoughts and write this useless prose. (london bridge is falling down falling down falling down)

Letter Policy

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, or drop them off at the Blazer office at 6-1009.

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Blazer produced, written by and for the students

The Blazer is a student-run newspaper, by and for the students.

The purposes of the newspaper are to report news accurately, objectively, and fairly, to establish a means for students and staff to express opinions by providing a letter-to-the-editor section, and to provide both information and entertainment through various features, columns, and reviews.

The Blazer is NOT a house organ, or public relations tool, for JJC as a whole or departmentally. Stories are written by students and are possible and are not published by staff or administration. It is labeled as such, and provided only as a service to the students. School news is the major focus, however, community, national, or international news may be covered

Editorial

as well. We strive for complete coverage; however, we retain the right to choose which stories will be printed in the space available and the right to determine the priority of the stories. We also strive to cover objectively both sides of any controversial issue in news stories.

On the editorial page, staff members may state their opinions, including endorsement of candidates for elected office. Signed editorials are the opinions of the writers. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the publication. No

editorials necessarily reflect the opinion of the administration, staff or the advisor.

With that in mind, we encourage all readers to write letters to the editor.

Letters to the editor should be no more than 300 words in length. Letters must be signed, and a phone number given, to verify authenticity. Although letters just be signed in ink, a writer's name may, under special circumstances, be withheld at the discretion of the editor. But the reason must be compelling.

staff. The editor has final authority to determine which and how many letters to publish. Priority will be given to letters that deal with current campus events and news. Less timely letters will be published when space permits. Because of space limitations, when many letters are received on the same subject, a few representative letters will be published; the editor will note that other letters on the same subject have been received.

Finally, we reserve the right to change policies as needed.

Help Wanted: The Blazer is looking for a few good people who are interested in writing. If so, contact Editor Stephanie Busbey at 280-2313, or at EXT. 2313 if on campus.

Opinion

It's the end of the world as we know it... or is it?

With the year 2000 looming closer, there has been a lot of hype about the millennium bug and the global shutdown of computers. People are saying the power will go out, planes will crash, cars and trains will come to a halt, the economy will collapse, etc. In essence, the world as we know it will come to an end, and the Information Age will give way to the rise of the next Dark Age.

Well, relax folks. There's a lot less going to happen than people fear. For the few people that haven't heard, it's widely felt that any computer or computer chip that has a two-digit year in the date (i.e., mm/dd/yy format) will read the year 2000 as 1900 and go haywire. In truth, most technicians really aren't sure what will happen with a given piece of electronics. It all depends on the programming.

When most people think of programming, they picture software. They think of games, word processing programs, or spreadsheets. However, even the hardware is programmed.

The difference is simply that in a piece of hardware such as a microchip, the programming is permanent. Think of it as audio cassette tapes vs. CD's. The tape is like software; you can change, overwrite, or erase the contents as needed. The CD is like hardware: once you burn music onto it, that's it. No going back.

Where all the scare started was in banking and accounting. For simplicity's sake, let's talk about your bank account. Let's say you opened a savings account in 1995. If the program used to track the interest accumulated to your account is not properly set up to read 00 as 2000, it will believe the year is 1900 and you have opened your account 95 years in the future. Again, depending on the program, either you would lose all of your accumulated interest, or the computer program could simply fizzle out and refuse to work.

This does not necessarily mean that all of your bank account information is gone, and you will suddenly be broke!

First of all, the banks are smart enough to keep backup copies of all their information. They will keep records of everything in their computers in the event their programs do encounter errors. And it won't all sit in one computer that will crash so everything will be gone in one shot. It's not a Y2K issue, it's a huge security risk. Good banks will backup their data shortly before the clocks roll over, so if any information is lost it will only be a matter of hours, possibly

Let me tell ya somethin' by Mike Oliveri



even minutes, of data.

Secondly, account records and such are generally kept in a database file. This is actually a separate file from the program files, like when you save an essay you wrote on Microsoft Word. The program simply accesses this database file to obtain information. There is no reason for the program to suddenly erase this data. If the programs and computers crash, it will just be a matter of the bank finding a new way to access the database file.

If you want to be safe, simply ask your bank to show you that they are Y2K compliant. Chances are, your bank has already seen you a letter saying they are completely ready for the year 2000, as both of my banks have. If you want to be even safer, hang on to your account records and ask them to print you a current statement at the end of December. Most banks won't mail December statements until January.

Those of you hoping your credit card company will suddenly lose all records of your purchases, don't hold your breath. They're probably hoping you max out those cards on Y2K survival gear so they can send you a nice, fat, heart-stopping statement in January.

Another big Y2K concern is the utilities: electricity, gas, etc. Will those services be shut down?

To put it simply—no.

Sure, ComEd had a lot of trouble in Chicago this summer. But that's because everybody in the city insisted on running all their lights, TV's, air conditioners, etc., all at once, despite having been told to conserve energy.

It was a mechanical issue stemming from overloaded lines and circuit, not computer glitches. I've already seen ComEd's Y2K statements (I know people who work for two of their nuclear plants), and they are 100% ready in all of their plants.

Of course, it was then asked if the nuclear reactors in Dresden, LaSalle, or Braidwood would suffer a meltdown on Jan. 1, 2000. Again, NO. There are fail-safes in place of fail-safes on top of fail-safes in those

plants, and some are purely mechanical and not run by computers.

Now, let's talk about hardware.

The only option here is to replace the chips, and this isn't really all that tough. I used to work for a major retail chain whose computer mainframes in each store were originally designed in the late '60s. Everything was hardwired into a series of large circuit boards (about eight in each store's computer) that looked a lot like the single motherboard you would see if you opened a home PC.

Surely something designed in the 60s couldn't be Y2K compliant, could it? Guess again. Before the hype of the millennium bug even hit, the store technicians put in new boards with compliant chips. This retail chain was ready for 2000 by mid-1997.

The same goes for your home PC. Check with your manufacturer to verify compliance of the chips in your motherboard. With a minimal cost, you can order and install replacement chips. If it comes down to it, you can even roll the date back on your computer several years and simply not let the date cross over.

Peripheral electronic equipment, TV's, VCR's, monitors, etc., will either be just fine or only suffer minor inconveniences. This will be of so little consequence that it won't be worth the upsurge. You see, most of that equipment doesn't even care what the date is because they're not making any date-based calculations. At worst, your VCR may be confused when you try to program a recording date.

This brings me to the last problem, and it's the big one. Earlier, I said "there's a lot less going to happen than people fear." I should amend that to read "there's a lot less going to happen TO TECHNOLOGY than people fear."

So what's this big problem?

People.

That's right, people. Think about the riots in the '90's alone, such as the LA riots after the Rodney King trial or the Chicago riots after the Bulls won the championship. If people react that way to a simple basketball

game or a court verdict, what do you think is going to happen when they think the end of the world is coming?

Stay out of Chicago, folks. If we're lucky, rioters won't be too bad. Live in a largely rural community, and having grown up in the crowded northern suburbs, I'm glad for it.

In the final weeks of this year, there may be runs on the bank as people scramble to withdraw their money. There may be hoarding at the supermarkets. Even if you don't fear the Y2K crisis, you may find yourself having to do the same just so you can have money and groceries for your own family. This is what would lead to banks collapsing. Then, when the food runs out at the supermarket, it could lead to robberies and riots.

Sure, most cities are working to prevent this behavior, but only time will tell if it works. Chicago, I understand, is developing a "Millennium Bug" mascot in a fuzzy costume. Yeah, brilliant idea, Mayor Daley. "Look everyboddy! It's the Millennium Bug! Let's be friends!"

The best prevention is going to be education. The word needs to get out that everything will be okay, America will move on even if some of its neighbors don't. Unfortunately, the media doesn't seem to care when things are fine. For many news services, it's only news if it's bad news.

Take this interesting tidbit: several governments have already rolled their systems over to the new fiscal year, meaning that they have already set their financial records ahead to 2000. These governments include Canada, Japan, and New York state. If there were problems with their 2000 rollover, we would have heard about it by now.

As for the computer "apocalypse": "it's a coverup!" they cry. Not possible. Think about it: if citizens of New York stopped getting unemployment checks or disability checks, or if schools and municipalities weren't receiving their state tax funding, there would be one Hell of a ruckus. You simply cannot hide a problem of this magnitude.

As we get closer to the New Year, doubtless we will hear more about the problem. If you're sick of hearing about it now, just wait! It'll get worse, and only time will tell what's going to happen.

So, with that, I leave you. I plan to greet the next millennium with a hefty mug of beer, not hoarding canned goods and hiding in my cellar. Until 01/01/00, be calm, be cool, and be safe. Cheers

Letter advises students how to improve grades

Editor's note: In the Oct. 13 issue of the *Blaze*, it was brought to our attention that the editorial regarding midterms was unclear as to how students can get help if they are having trouble in classes.

Clarification can be found in the following letter that is sent to students who are receiving an average grade below a "C" in a class (from Dr. Denis G. Wright, Vice President of Academic Services, and Dr. Alan Hardersen, Vice President of Student Services). The letter has been edited for space restrictions and relevancy.

Dear Student:
An average grade of "C" is required to receive a certificate or degree from JJC. In some cases, a grade of "C" or better is required to fulfill the prerequisite required for the next course. Thus, your current standing of "D" or "E" suggests a student may be having some academic difficulty.

Since we are only a little after the mid-point of the semester there may still be time to improve your grade.

First, have you discussed your current status in this course with the instructor? Your instructor will be able to let you know your current grade and suggest improvement strategies. Are you aware whether or not extra credit is available in this class?

Have you turned in all your work (papers, homework, etc.)? If not, is it still possible to turn in the work? It stands alone an issue with your grade and what strategy will you use to improve your attendance? Work with the course instructor and find out where you stand and how you might improve your situation.

Second, have you made use of the services available to you? The Academic Skills Center (J-2035) has tutoring assistance for

students in many areas. (Call (815) 280-2284 for the latest peer tutoring schedule.)

They have a Skill Enhancement Learning Lab (SELL) to specifically address problems in math, English composition, and reading.

Third, have you recently met with your departmental advisor or visited the Counseling Office? (Located in J-1037, hours are Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m. - Noon, during fall and spring terms. Call (815) 280-2673 for more information.)

These individuals can assist you with strategies for improving study skills, managing time better, dealing with testing anxiety, and reducing stress.

Finally, have you looked within yourself? Students should be spending a minimum of one-two hours of out-of-class time for every

hour of a lecture class.

For those taking 12-15 hours of credit, that means 12-30 hours A WEEK reading, studying, reviewing class notes, and doing homework.

If you are currently spending so much time working at your job or on other activities that you cannot devote the time required, then you might need to seriously consider reducing your course load by dropping a class. We encourage you to discuss this option with a counselor, advisor, and/or your instructor. Good grades are hard work and they require a dedicated effort.

Good luck as you approach this situation. Please take this warning seriously and take advantage of these suggestions to improve your grades.

Sincerely yours,
Dr. Denis G. Wright
Vice President of Academic

Services

Dr. Alan Hardersen

Vice President of Student

Services

Editor's note: Also, students with disabilities or health concerns can find services through Special Needs, not Project Achieve/Student Support Services as indicated in the Oct. 13 editorial.

For more information on Special Needs, call (815) 280-2230 to make an appointment.

Correction:

The Industrial Maintenance Technology program was previously called the Building and Industrial Maintenance program. The old name was incorrectly named in "Vet-Tech building to house IMT courses."

Crime Report (From Front Page)

left unattended.

Bennett believes that part of the problem is that students have a hard time making the transition from high school, where everyone has lockers, to college, where most carry their belongings.

"This is a lot different than high school," said Bennett. He cautions students to not leave their belongings lying around. Bennett thinks that an expanded, required orientation for freshmen would allow the Campus Police to better caution students of this.

Officers who take the reports are responsible for following through with an investigation and seeing if any charges come up with the case, according to Bennett, but it is difficult to do so in the case of theft.

There is no way to track cash; cell phone and pager numbers are changed; and then used, and TVs and VCRs are converted into cash

as soon as possible.

"Usually with theft, it is difficult to capture or apprehend (the criminal). It is usually done in the absence of someone, within a matter of 1-45 minutes, and the (victim) has no clue as to who went in or out," said Bennett.

However, in the case of items with serial numbers on them, information is entered into the Law Enforcement Assistant Dispatching (LEAD) system, where it is then given nationwide attention and the Campus Police would find out if they were discovered somewhere.

The Weapons Violation reported in '98 was a case of domestic violence, according to Cornelius. A man stalked his ex-girlfriend on campus with a knife, and she reported it to the Campus Police. The man was then arrested.

A student was also arrested recently for being "disruptive in class and making threats to the

class in general, mentioning guns, talking about 'taking someone out,'" according to Bennett.

"North Campus is our most tranquil campus," he states. City Center Campus crime statistics show only three forcible burglaries and two thefts in '98.

There were a high number of reported aggravated assaults reported in '96 on City Center Campus, eight as compared to two being the highest number reported in '97 or '98 for any of the campuses.

Bennett said the high number of aggravated assaults reported that year were actually only in the vicinity of the campus and not actually on campus.

According to Commander Melvin Cornelius, a string of robberies have taken place in the neighborhood with off-campus construction companies' equipment being stolen.

JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE CRIME STATISTICS FOR MAIN CAMPUS

	1996	1997	1998
Murder	0	0	0
Forcible Sex Offenses	0	0	0
Non-Forcible Sex Offenses	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2	2	1
Robbery	0	0	0
Burglary-Forcible	1	1	13
Theft	2	1	37
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations	2	0	1
Drug Abuse Violations	0	0	0
Weapons Violations	2	1	1
Hate Crimes	1	0	0

The table above is part of a booklet that Campus Police voluntarily disperses around campus entitled "Campus Information, Traffic & Parking Regulations & Crime Statistics."

Alliance (From Front Page)

theft/safety, smoking (people smoking in non-smoking areas), the need for a path from T to J buildings; transfer information; and racism.

Of the 163 students who indicated that they have classes in T and J buildings, 82 indicated that they found it difficult to get between the two buildings when asked.

More issues that were mentioned less frequently included: more input on how choices are made in the college; drugs on campus; betterment of life; politics; the desire for a printer in Cyber Cafe; the cost of college; and the environment.

Issues that were only mentioned once included: religion; grade appeal process; book buy-back; events promotion; emergency escape plans; community awareness; ethnic diversity; course quizzes on computer having limited access and bugs not worked out; politeness of security, laws, and sports.

The results of the survey showed that 263 students are full-time and 48 students are part-time. When asked how many hours they had in between classes, 17 indicated one, 44 indicated one hour, six indicated two hours, five indicated three hours, four indicated four hours, and 15 students said that their hours varied.

Many of the students surveyed answered that they find the Cyber Cafe beneficial to students when asked, with 274 replying yes, and only 20 replying no.

Student's answers were more varied when asked if they found the new computer labs beneficial, with 162 replying yes, 33 replying no, and 98 saying that they are not used.

When asked how hard it is to find information pertaining to their degree, 139 said it was easy, and 63 students said that it was hard. When asked if they knew who their advisor was, 141 said no, and 92 said yes.

Sixty-two students indicated that they never see their advisor, 35 said they saw their advisor two to

three times a year, and 49 said often.

Commentary on food in the cafeteria included 250 responses. Of the students who commented, 153 students said that it is "awesome" or that it "tastes great," 37 said that they don't eat there, 36 said that it is "good but pricey," 16 said that there is a good variety, and eight said that they wanted more vegetarian options.

Students were quite divided in their answers regarding how reasonable the prices in the cafeteria are, with 130 saying they are reasonable, 12 saying some are, and 130 saying they are not.

When asked if they belonged to any JJC clubs, 34 indicated that they belong to clubs, and 80 indicated that they do not. When asked if they would be interested in joining a club, 46 said yes, and 63 said no.

The students who answered no were then asked why not, and responses were: "no free time," "already involved in one or more activities on/off campus," "work and/or family priorities," and "didn't realize that there was an established club on campus."

Questions were also asked regarding activities that have taken place as well as suggestions for future activities. Suggestions for future Student Alliance-sponsored events were a stand-up comedy night, concerts, and Jucio Olympics.

Also suggested volleyball tournaments, dances, cookouts, BBQs, a date auction fund raiser for clubs, JJC "taste," and Wish Upon a Star benefit.

Other suggestions included trips to plays/museums, co-ed sports. "See you at the pole" mixers to get to know more students; and wrestling.

Finally, students rated Main Campus "overall," with 177 saying it is good, 91 saying that it is fair, four saying that it is poor, and four saying they had no opinion.

JCSA meetings are open to all and will be held in the Cyber Cafe Thursday, Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 11, and 18 at 3 p.m.

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News

Clinton (From Front Page)

*** News Briefs ***

Minority transfer fair

The Multicultural Transfer Center will hold a minority transfer fair for private Illinois colleges and universities Nov. 10 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on the D concourse.

Horror movie night

Double Feature Horror Movie Night will be held Friday, Oct. 29, at 7 p.m. featuring "Creature From the Black Lagoon" in 3D and "The Birds" in the Cyber Cafe.

International Film Forum

The International Film Forum continues its series with "Tokyo Story," a Japanese film by Yasujiro Ozu. It will be shown Oct. 27 at 3 p.m. and Oct. 28 at 7 p.m.

A black and white, subtitled film, which lasts 134 minutes. "Tokyo Story" tells the story of the conflicts between generations and of the alienation of the modern world.

Spoke Lee's Malcolm X, starring Denzel Washington, will also be shown Nov. 10 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Both films are shown in D-2002, a lecture hall with stadium seating and a new, high-quality sound system and projection technology. The films are free and

open to the public.

Coffeehouse

There will be a Coffeehouse on the bridge Wednesday, Nov. 3 at 6:30 p.m. featuring Native American Poetry and Story Telling. Admission is free, and coffee and snacks will be available.

Stress Management activities

Holistic Wellness activities in November will focus on Stress Management.

Hypnosis and Humor will be presented Tuesday, Nov. 2, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Student Center Lounge. An Aromatherapy Seminar will be sponsored Monday, Nov. 8, from noon-1 p.m. "Putting an End to Procrastination" will be presented Tuesday, Nov. 9, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Student Center Lounge. The Health Occupations Fair and Forum will be held Wednesday, Nov. 17, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on the center bridge, where programs from various colleges and universities will be spotlighted, ranging from Phlebotomy, to Respiratory therapy to Therapeutic massage. A forum with individuals employed in some of these areas will also be held in conjunction with the fair.

Gonzalez stated that the problem is that there are not enough Latinos in high positions.

According to the Associated Press story, Clinton said that his administration has exceeded all others in appointing Hispanic judges, and accused the Republican-led Senate of ignoring minority nominees to the federal bench for partisan gain.

In the same report, a spokesman for Senator John Ashcroft, R-Mo., who led opposition to Clinton's nomination of Ronnie White, a black judge who had earlier won GOP endorsements, said Clinton should work with the Senate leadership, rather than denouncing it.

Other speakers at the conference highly emphasized the importance of education. Clinton said that too many Hispanic teenagers still drop out of high school. Just 62 percent of Hispanic ages 25 to 29 complete high school compared with 87 percent of blacks and 93 percent of whites, according to federal figures.

Dr. Angelina Pedrosa, who will be speaking before one of Latinos Unidos's Cinco De Mayo functions in May, emphasizes that students (young and old) need to

take responsibility for their own education, according to Carole Hamilton, Latinos Unidos club advisor.

Members of Latinos Unidos who participated in the conference this year feel they learned a lot. "It was very motivating," said Danny Rosales, Latinos Unidos treasurer.

"I liked all the Latinos learning together and all the knowledge I got. It was exciting," said Delia Mejia, Latinos Unidos secretary. Last school year, the club did not have the funds to attend the complete conference after all of the events they sponsored, such as a trip to the Mexican Fine Arts Museum in October, a conference at NIU in February, and their first Annual Cinco de Mayo Celebration in May. They gained funding to go this year through participating in the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute's

Leadership Development Program (LDP), as well as the Collegiate Leadership Development Program (CLDP).

LDP is a nine-week grassroots program to promote and facilitate constructive dialogue and interaction between Latino citizens and local county, city and school government public officials. CLDP is a similar six-week program that focuses on cultivating the next generation of Latino leaders through greater activism on campus and in their community. Latinos Unidos was also recognized at the conference for completing both of these programs.

"With the success of the first Annual Cinco de Mayo Celebration and the knowledge we are gaining from the conferences we have attended, we have become stronger and more united," said Susi Mejia, Latinos Unidos president.

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Features

Career Planning

Self-assessment valuable

The Career Planning and Placement Office located in the Student Center, D-1010, extension 2756, can help individuals gather information about their interests, skills and personality type as related to career. It takes 60 to 90 minutes to take one of these assessments and get it interpreted by a career counselor. Usually an appointment is required. The Counseling Office, J-1037, extension 2673, also offers these services during road semesters.

For those who would rather do less-intensive self-assessment without an appointment with a career counselor, come to either the Student Center or the Counseling Center. On the student-use computers click on either the SignPlus or ChoicesCT icon and do the assessment section of these career develop-

ment software programs. If you need help with these programs, please ask.

ChoicesCT and SignPlus are also on computers located in the Honors Program Office, Early School Leavers Office, Project Achieve Office, North Campus Library and some computers at City Center.

To make an effective career decision, an individual should look inward (interests, skills, work values, etc.), look outward (workplace trends, occupational information, etc.) and look forward (goal-setting, educational planning, job search planning, etc.). See the next Blazer issue for ways to "look outward".

submitted by
Mary Anne Buckman,
Director of Career Planning and
Placement

Transfer Center success story

The following is in reply to a request of the Multicultural Transfer Center for testimonials to encourage minority students to continue with their education.

Latisha Johnson, 22, has earned an Associates in Applied Science - Nursing from JJC. She has obtained a certificate in Telemetry/EKG and passed the Illinois Nursing licensing boards. She is now a Registered Nurse at Silver Cross Hospital in the Telemetry Unit, has purchased her own home and begun working on her bachelors at Lewis University.

JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE HELPED ME... Reach my goal of becoming a nurse. At a certain point in my life, going to a college was not a financial option for me. JJC offered a more affordable way of getting started in my field of choice, nursing.

IF I KNEW THEN WHAT I KNOW NOW... I would still live my life the way it was because



Latisha Johnson is graduate of JJC and she is now a Registered Nurse at Silver Cross Hospital.

what I went through in the past made me the person I am today and I wouldn't want to be any different than I am.

I HAVE LEARNED OVER THE YEARS... That all things happen for a reason. You have to make it through and deal with life's

photo courtesy of Transfer Center changes as best as possible. Always try and never give up because when you finally make a difference, you'll definitely know what "living life to the fullest" really means.

I AM A 1998 GRADUATE OF JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE.

Movie Review

'B-type' Evil Dead trilogy reviewed cult classic

by Nina Darguzis

When the words "cult classic" come to mind most people think of the famous "Rocky Horror Picture Show." It's a fabulous film and great to see live—I recommend it with all my busied and fishnet party-hood form.

But the cult classic I'm going to tell you about is a little-understood, San Ramon, flesh called the Evil Dead trilogy.

No one will ever admit to seeing these B-type horror movies in the theaters, but they have a huge video following. I, myself, was roped into it by a friend, said down and forced to watch them. Now it is

my turn to pass the torch to all of you. Bruce Campbell (Brisk County Jr., Ellen), the main character, Ash, is one of my ultimate heroes. He's right up there with Tim Curry. He's the anti-hero, kind of like The Tick.

Evil Dead: The first movie—this one should be watched just for background information—not as cool as the next two) Ash is a college student, working at S-Mart, and gets a great deal on a secluded cabin in the woods.

He, his new girlfriend, and another couple are up for a little relaxation when they find a quaint book bound in human flesh called

the Necronomicon, (roughly translated: The Book of the Dead). It was in the process of being translated by a professor when he disappeared. Let's just say the whole sheil was meant for the living, and chaos ensues.

Evil Dead 2: Dead by Dawn—This one is the sequel to the first movie. The filmmakers realized that the first movie was just ridiculously cheesy, re-vamped the whole thing and made it purposely funnier!

The movie may have been the inspiration for Idle Hands, because Ash chops off his possessed hand but instead of a garbage bag—gets

a kickin' chainsaw for a hand and a sawed off shotgun. To add to the fun, watch Ash cut up his girlfriend, battle the cellar bound evil-dead grandma, and laugh as he gets the snoot beat out of him!

Army of Darkness—This is the most famous of the movies to date, actually SEEN in the theaters! This movie continues from where the first two movies leave off. The effects are really cool because they had a bigger budget, so it's even more amusing.

This time Ash is whisked back into the past and captured as a slave. He must battle his evil-self to save the kingdom, get the girl,

and find a way home... only he has to say the words from the book exactly.

Trust me, these movies are a scream. I can assure you that you'll love them, if not for the B-movie quality, then the comedy that has been put into the dialog.

You'll fall in love with Ash, as you see him grow from a sissy-boy to a honking hero (he does have that her-quality chin and all). So kick back and have a laugh, and watch the gore!

Let Nino know what you think of these films (or any of the ones reviewed). E-mail Nino at SpookedPet@yahoo.com.

'Co-ed Prison Sluts' distasteful, offensive, hilarious

by Carole Sharwarco

Are you tired of people crawling around pretending to be cats? What about deformed guys that live in play houses—had enough of them? Perhaps a welcome alternative in your day, styled theatrical life would be the Annoyance Theater's "Coed Prison Sluts." Chicago's longest running improv comedy musical. It is full of, of, not innuendo—straightforward sexual reference and profanity. The cost is \$12— and possibly your soul.

"Sluts" tells the story of Alice, a young lady sent to prison after having shot her mom and dad because they abused her. Upon arriving there, she learns what prison life is all about, from rape to gang-bang to love. Sounds heavy, right? Keep in mind it is a comedy. This highly irregular formula is full

of laughs and disgust. During some parts, half the audience is roaring while the other half is wondering whether they want to stay.

Alice meets many interesting people in prison, including Henry, a sadistic cannibal that is locked up for eating people. There it also Slick, an extremely alien, needy fellow who has been sent up river for being inappropriate with children. Slick's best friend is HamsterMan—nuff said. HamsterMan is in love with Danc, a woman convinced she is an actress and has a show every night. Her main function in the play is swearing. Overseeing it all is the prison psychiatrist, who is, of course, a transvestite. He uses unorthodox methods and hypnosis to make the inmates comfortable while he dresses up like a woman and masturbates. Um, yeah.

The most interesting character is the Clown. Everyone is scared of the Clown for some reason and when he finally appears in the last act, we learn he isn't your typical clown. He walks out smoking and gives the crowd the middle finger when they laugh at him because he smokes, "I'm the clown."

I won't tell you how it ends, though it doesn't really matter because the plot is not necessarily

the entertaining aspect of this play. It is the comedy. It seems like this is horribly distasteful and offensive. And it is. But it is hilarious in its total lack of tact.

If you're politically correct, chaste in action and speech, or easily offended, don't see this play. If you like to make fun of people who are politically correct, chaste in action and speech, see this play immediately.

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Features

Horrorscopes

by Amy Lakeberg

Scorpio: Oct. 23 to Nov. 21 - Even though you would love to make your own Halloween costume this year, it is more important to think about who you are spending time with on Halloween Night. If your birthday is this month, continue to let your "Shining" personality come through. (If you do not get that, you might want to watch a few flicks this year.)

Sagittarius: Nov. 22 to Dec. 21 - Okay, so this year you have had enough of towing your brothers and sisters around trick-or-treating. Tell your parents this, and they might let up and you will be able to go out to a special event and do what you want for once.

Capricorn: Dec. 22 to Jan. 19 - Although you want to do what you want for Halloween, listen to your friends' ideas and compromise. Go to a haunted house, then go to a party or other event.

Aquarius: Jan. 20 to Feb. 18 - Do not let your emotions rule you. Just because you want to go out with that certain someone does not mean they are going to yield to your wishes. If that's the case, do what you want to think your Halloween plans over.

Pisces: Feb. 19 to Mar. 20 - Do something different this year for Halloween. Instead of the usual house run or party, plan on spending it with someone who does not get the chance to see you that often. Go to a movie matinee or even an art show.

Aries: Mar. 21 to Apr. 20 - Your humor usually enables you to play a couple of good old Halloween tricks. Even so, watch out for younger siblings and friends who might just want to get back at you.

Taurus: Apr. 21 to May 20 - So you are wondering what to wear to a costume party? Women really should consider Aphrodite, the Goddess of Love, and men should consider Cupid. This really would bring out your beautiful, creative and loving nature.

Gemini: May 21 to June 21 - Do not be disillusioned for what you are doing on Halloween. It may not be all that you want it to be, but doing simple things like giving out candy to the trick-or-treaters is what you need to get your feet back on the ground.

Cancer: June 22 to July 22 - Whew! You have some crazy go-get for Halloween. You may have gone all-out this year, but be sure to recognize what the others in your circle of friends are going as. It just might be the same thing.

Leo: July 23 to Aug. 22 - Okay, so you have not picked out your costume yet for Halloween. Why not go as something (or someone) that you have always wanted to be? Remember, it takes time to have something come out really good, so you'd best be rollin' along!

Virgo: Aug. 23 to Sept. 23 - So you do not get scared by all that Halloween stuff, eh? You might find yourself covering in the corner at a haunted house you attend. Your usually scaredy-cat friend might just be the one that calms your nerves!

Libra: Sept. 24 to Oct. 22 - Your birthday just passed and you really thought your life was going to slow down, but, of course, it decided to speed up. Well, Halloween weekend might be a great time to kick back. But not on "the day." Therefore, I suggest you do the scaring; do not let the trick-or-treaters scare you. The pressure you have been under might just make you go through the roof!

JJC student walks through hallways, onto runways

by Amy Lakeberg

Jordan McClintok - maybe this name rings a bell.

She has guest-starred on Oprah, works at Bally Total Fitness, and takes classes here, at JJC. Did I mention that she is a model? That's right, McClintok has worked as a runway model for only a year. Yet, she managed to model for prom/teen runway shows, auto shows and made a guest appearance on "Oprah."

"I wore Meg Ryan's Oscar gown at a runway show," she said, explaining why she appeared on "Oprah." "I got the gown at pre-auction."

McClintok had no prior experience as a model until last year, when she just decided to try some agencies downtown. The main modeling agency she now works for is Arta.

"Modeling is very time consuming," McClintok said. "I have learned you have to be picky [with] auditions."

To be a model, you must watch your weight constantly, get enough sleep, exercise, drink a lot of water and eat right.

"You really can't slack off,"



Jordan McClintok, JJC student, models for runway shows and made a guest appearance on "Oprah." photo courtesy of Jordan McClintok

McClintok replied when she told me she has her own athletic trainer. "If you want to be a model, it's a good idea if you are a person who is very determined and can set goals."

For advice to future models she said, "Just go to agencies and audition. In modeling, [you have to] take everything with a grain of salt. Not everyone is going to think you're beautiful." McClintok attributes her success to her family and English teacher, Kathy Reeves.

"My parents did not want to push me," she said.

Her parents did not want her modeling until she was 18. McClintok grew up in the Joliet area, but she said that eventually she wants to move to L.A., if everything "works out."

McClintok might also do another show this May for Vogue, in Milan, Italy. She plans to model until about 23, and to transfer to UIIC after she receives her associates at JJC.

The Blazer wishes everyone a happy and safe Halloween



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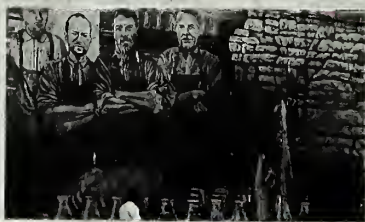
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Downtown Joliet

Through the eye of the camera...

photos by Shane Lindsay



Don't be afraid...

by Ryan Ruffatti



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Features

Black packs fire, Kendall best of '99, Lil' Troy lacking

Clint Black "D'lectrified" Rating: *** 1/2

The case that contains "D'lectrified" reads: WARNING: NO ELECTRIC INSTRUMENTS USED IN THIS RECORDING. This is more of a proclamation than a warning.

The case inside does not suffer at all from the lack of electricity. Clint Black creates all kinds of firepower with the acoustic guitar, horns, fiddles, piano and his trusty harmonica. Clint is one of a few country artists who actually (are you ready?) writes his own songs!

He mixes new compositions with wonderful acoustic interpretations of classic Black tunes, including a jazzed up "Burn One Down" and a stripped down "No Time to Kill."

He writes a bit from his tendency to write and perform his own music by getting helping hands from the likes of Kenny Loggins, Waylon Jennings, Steve Wariner, Bruce Hornsby, and his wife, Lisa.

The collaborations are effective (save the title "Harmony" with Loggins), however Clint does his best work when he sings his thoughtful songs on his own. He is a gifted songwriter who has a knack for marrying deep, philosophical and clever lyrics and country music that is equally as sophisticated.

This sophistication allows the casual country listener to appreciate the craftsmanship and talent of Clint Black as avid country listen-

ers have for ten years now.

review by Matt Packard

Kendall Payne "Jordan's Sister" Rating: *****

I've had this album since it came out on July 13, but hesitated to review it. I had to see if my fascination with Kendall's debut would wear off, or if I would be doing the music world justice by calling it the best album of the year.

I can now honestly say that I have not heard a better album in 1999. Before her 20th birthday, Kendall has reached well beyond her years to gather this thoughtful masterpiece.

The musicianship and production are nearly flawless, and her voice is oddly familiar, yet somehow unique. Occasionally, Kendall's voice sounds like that of Fiona Apple. At other times she almost resembles Beth Orton.

No matter what emotion she conveys, Kendall is intense. She has the listener hard with rocking numbers such as the thrilling "Hollywood".

Then she lights a candle in the soul of everyone within, listening distance with calming, reflective and intentionally timid ballads such as "Honest" and "On My Bones".

At some point during the album, everyone can find a song to relate to and/or learn from. Jordan's Sister deals with difficult subjects ranging from teenage pregnancy to the sudden death of a

loved one.

She also acts her age on "Perfect by Thursday" (about a high school crush) and on "Supermodels." The latter is a witty song that taunts the sex symbols and features the line "I've got more on my head than what's made by Paul Mitchell." Most of the songs feature piano surrounded by well-arranged guitars and booming percussion.

I could go on for pages.

So in short, Kendall Payne will hold your emotions and your mood between her fingers. It is completely up to her whether you slam your hands into your dashboard or tilt your head back to fight tears.

It's not likely that you will see her on MTV or ever hear her on the radio, but take the opportunity to laugh, cry and learn with Kendall Payne.

It might be the best 15 dollars you spend this year.

review by Matt Packard

Lil' Troy "Sittin' Fat Down South" Rating: **

In the liner notes, Lil' Troy thanks God for helping him through this "grim" project. That's nice to read.

He forget, however, to thank God for creating a music industry where one hit single can make you a millionaire.

"Still a Bitch" is an interesting track. However, outside of the impressive "Wanna Be a Baller,"

Music Ratings:

- ***** - Buy it today!!
- **** - A fan favorite
- *** - Good Tunes
- ** - Not worth your \$15
- * - Not worth the wax

there is not much else here worth mentioning. "Wanna..." has an exotic, yet calming old school feeling.

The actual rapping is mediocre, but the choiced voices and scorching beat make for a really nice single. The rest of the album sounds like everything that came from the west coast in the early and mid-nineties. The flows are simple, the rhymes are simple, and the melodies are typical.

This would have been suitable six years ago, but the truly gifted

and thoughtful rappers such as Redman, Eminem, Nas, The Lox, and countless others leave Lil' Troy a \$90 cab ride behind them.

Lil' Troy lacks the wit and humor that make rap so interesting. If you enjoyed the Compton era and appreciate songs about life in the ghetto, you might want to pick this album up.

If you demand clever rhymes and a few laughs packed in with your ghetto stories and descriptions, I suggest you look elsewhere.

review by Matt Packard

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Sports

A view from the sidelines

Photos taken by Lorraine Guerrero



Pat Badenfeld breaks free from the line.



The offense and defense clash during a practice scrimmage.

Football (From Back Page)

Eureka Valley junior varsity team on Halloween in Eureka, Ill., then travel to Mason City, Iowa, on Saturday, Nov. 6, to play North Iowa Area Community College for

the final game. Also, the official football season wraps just as both the men's and women's basketball seasons open.

Help Wanted: The Blazer is looking for a few good people who are interested in sports writing. If so, please contact Sports Editor Mike Oliveri at 280-2313, or at EXT. 2313 if on campus.

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Sports

Mentors make a difference for athletes

by Mike Oliveri

While the Division of Student Services is a campus-wide effort to provide students with the help and advice they need to continue their education, the athletic department has taken the next step to provide additional aid to athletes through the Athletic Mentoring Program.

The program is designed to provide athletes with an individual they can turn to for help with their schooling, with the ultimate goal of keeping athletes in school.

It is also set up to encourage greater involvement in school activities and help take steps toward entering a four-year school.

"Our ultimate goal is one hundred percent retention in all programs," said Mark Smith, admissions specialist and associate head coach of the Wolves baseball team. Smith is also the coordinator of the 3-year-old program. "It's a giant step for us, but it's attainable."

To achieve this goal, mentors are asked to do the following: meet with student-athletes as often as possible to establish a personal connection; discuss academic plans, goals and progress with student-athletes; advise student-athletes of campus resources such as Project Achieve, the Academic Skills Center, Career Planning & Placement and

similar programs; and provide general support to student-athletes from outside the area who may not have family and friends nearby. All faculty and staff members are invited to participate as mentors. Student-athletes are randomly assigned to mentors, and all faculty and staff members are invited to participate as mentors.

Student-athletes are randomly assigned to mentors. Mentor-student relationships typically continue through the school year, and sometimes longer for sophomores who stay in the program. All athletes who participated last year returned to the program this year.

"The program is doing its part," Smith said. "It's helping."

There are currently 54 student-athletes and 16 mentors in the program. Ideally, Smith says he would like to get one-on-one, or even two-to-one, athlete-to-mentor relationships. Currently, they are working with three or four athletes per mentor. Five of the 16 mentors are new to the program this year.

The athletic department has a solid commitment to ensuring athletes hold their academic standards as high as their playing abilities. Incoming freshmen must pass 12 hours of classes with a 1.75 average or higher in the first semester. From there, they must remain full-time students and maintain at

least a 2.0 average.

"Academics come first, and they have to," Smith said.

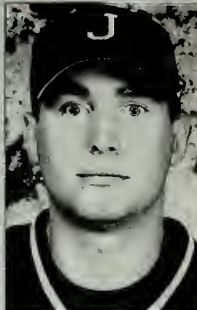
The athletic department performs grade checks and tracks team GPA's to follow the athletes' progress. When necessary, athletes are set up with tutoring appointments to get help in specific course areas. Even their class attendance is examined to make sure the athletes are doing their part to succeed.

Smith often goes to the other coaches and asks them why they feel may be in need of help from the mentoring program. Based on those recommendations, he contacts the athletes and tries to get them into the program.

Unfortunately, he has been forced to limit the program due to the limited availability of mentors. Staff or faculty members interested in helping a student-athlete should contact Smith in the Admissions Office at extension 2562. New mentors are always welcome to the program.

Student-athletes who would like to get extra help from a mentor or other student support services are encouraged to speak to their coaches or contact the athletic department.

Smith has coached the baseball team for seven seasons, and this is his third as associate head coach. He is recognized as one of



Associate Head Coach Mark Smith
photo courtesy Athletic Dept.

the top pitching coaches in the state. He is a JJC alumnus and received a bachelor of science degree in physical education from MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Ill.

Wolves win homecoming, then fall into rough rapids

by Mike Oliveri

The Wolves concluded their home season Saturday, Oct. 23, in a game against Grand Rapids Community College, falling 29-13 to finish their conference season with a 1-5 record.

The offense stumbled, managing only four first downs and giving away three interceptions. The Grand Rapids defense held them to 72 yards. All of JJC's scoring occurred in the second quarter, including some quick thinking by sophomore CB Jesse Icom, who ran in a 35-yd fumble recovery.

The Wolves weren't able to find the same groove that carried them to victory the previous week. In their homecoming game on Saturday, Oct. 16, the Wolves shut out visiting Rock Valley Community College in a 28-0 victory.

In that game, the Rock Valley defense managed five sacks, but that didn't stop the Wolves' offense



Dave Rossman braces for a tackle in practice for the upcoming Grand Rapids game.

from dominating the game. The Wolves held onto the ball for 37 minutes of the game and racked up 366 total yards and scoring one

touchdown in each quarter. In an outstanding play late in the first quarter, Sophomore WR Antoine Reed scored a 71-yard touchdown

photo taken by Lorraine Guerrero from a pass by Freshman QB Kyle Anderson.

That touchdown passed was the first of three Anderson would

deliver that game, leading to his selection as player of the week. He completed 12 of 17 passes for 217 yards and gave up no interceptions.

The Wolves defense did its job, holding their opponents to 101 total yards. They harassed the Rock Valley offense with four sacks and an interception, as well as recovering all four of Rock Valley's fumbles. Freshman LB Ashlea

Roberson scored three of those sacks, knocking the offense back a total of 32 yards.

Saturday also marked the last in-conference game for the Wolves. The loss leaves Grand Rapids with a 5-1 record overall and 4-1 in conference. As of Oct. 16, the other teams stand as follows: Rock Valley, 0-5 in conference and 0-7 overall; College of DuPage, 2-3 in conference and 3-3 overall; and Harper College, 5-0 in conference and 6-1 overall.

The Wolves will visit the See "Football" on Page 11

Lady Wolves take second in conference tournament

by Mike Oliveri

On Saturday, Oct. 16, the ladies squared off against the rest of their conference in the NAC tourney at the College of DuPage and left with a second place finish.

They first went up against Rock Valley Community College, whom they shut out in a match that only went two games. The scores

were 15-4 and 15-3. Taking a cue from the football team, JJC has defeated Rock Valley every time they've met.

Harper College proved to be a small challenge for the ladies, and the match went to all three games. JJC won the first game 15-3, but faltered a bit in the second to lose 6-15. They rallied at the end with a

15-7 victory to move on to the title match against College of DuPage.

CDD was ready for them, however. In a hard-fought first game, the Lady Wolves won 16-14. CDD came back with a vengeance, winning the final games 15-7 and 15-11 to take the title.

The tournament performance brought the ladies to an 11-19

record.

Sophomore Jodi Kettmann led the team with 54 assists. Kill leaders were freshmen Becky Gemmer and JoAnna Chesareck, with 18 and 15 respectively.

Sophomore Cathie Budd turned in 12 digs and 11 kills, followed closely by freshman Anne Marino with 11 digs

Following the tournament, Kettmann and Marino were named to the NAC all-conference first team, and Chesareck was named to the second team. Honorable mentions for all-conference were Gemmer and Budd.

Head Coach Kym McKay was the runner-up in votes for NAC Coach of the Year.

Upcoming Games

Wolves
Football

November 6- Last Regular Season Game
JJC at North Iowa Area C.C.
Mason City, Iowa
Kickoff at 1:00

Lady Wolves
Volleyball

October 28- Last Regular Season Match (7:00)
JJC at Moraine Valley
November 1-4- Regional Tournament (TBA)

Wolves
Basketball

November 6- First Regular Season Game (7:00)
JJC hosts Scholl College JV
November 9- JJC at Morton College (7:00)

Lady Wolves
Basketball

November 6- First Regular Season Game (5:30)
JJC plays Black Hawk Coll.
November 9- JJC at Morton College (5:00)